

Hafa Adai!

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IPI posts \$367M loss in 2020. **PAGE 3**

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'29% now fully vaccinated'

By JUSTINE NAUTA
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REPORTER

Twenty-nine percent of the CNMI's adult population is now fully vaccinated against COVID-19, according to Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. chief executive officer Esther Muña.

Speaking at the governor's news briefing yesterday, Muña said the 29% represents those who have already received both their first and second shots of the vaccine, while
See 29% on Page 4

Martin is still missing

By JUSTINE NAUTA
justine_nauta@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The search for 45-year-old Julieanna Martin remains ongoing,

according to the Department of Public Safety public information officer Dre Pangelinan yesterday.

Martin has been missing from
See MARTIN on Page 4

AT A GLANCE

As of 7pm, April 1, 2021

GUAM	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	7,807	3	7,810
Recovered	7,648	1	7,649
Active	24	3	27
Deaths	134	0	134
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested			141,412

SAIPAN	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	159	0	159
Traced via Travel Screening	123	0	123
Traced via Community Screening	36	0	36
Deaths	2	0	2
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested			26,131*
Days since last community transmission			16

VACCINATIONS IN THE CNMI

Saipan:	Tinian:	Rota:
Dose 1: 14,841	Dose 1: 913	Dose 1: 944
Dose 2: 10,985	Dose 2: 517	Dose 2: 735

*Total count includes the number of persons tested on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. With guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CHCC has opted not to report active and recovered cases.

Source: Joint Information Center - Guam, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.

COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

LEGEND:

- Red: Least safe
- Orange
- Yellow
- Blue
- Green: Safest

Source: Office of the Governor



SKATING ON A NEW CANVAS

A group of skateboard enthusiasts are seen enjoying the newly-painted Garapan Skate Park, which was part of a Precinct 3 project completed by members of the House of Representatives minority bloc and their staff last Friday, March 26.

NEIL FAMA

Pfizer says its COVID-19 vaccine protects younger teens

By LAURAN NEERGAARD and
MATTHEW PERRONE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pfizer announced Wednesday that its COVID-19 vaccine is safe and strongly protective
See PFIZER on Page 4

In this Dec. 22, 2020, photo, provided by Richard Chung, his son Caleb Chung receives the first dose of Pfizer coronavirus vaccine or placebo as a trial participant for kids ages 12-15, at Duke University Health System in Durham, N.C.

AP



Together, we can safely reopen tourism to jumpstart our economy

TOGETHER, WE CAN

By MIKE SABLAN

Special to the Saipan Tribune



Mike Sablan is vice president of Triple J Enterprises, Inc., a certified public accountant, and chairperson of the Domestic Policy and Recovery Committee of the Governor's Council of Economic Advisers. As an advisory council for Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios, the GCEA's mission is to improve the quality of life in the CNMI for all residents.

We can't emphasize enough how the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. and the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force have done a great job in establishing protocols that allowed the CNMI to manage the pandemic, save lives, and motivate us to work together in getting our economy back up and running.

Our economy relies heavily on tourism. With ongoing uncertainty with this crisis, we must work on a roadmap for the safe resumption of the critical and only industry in the CNMI.

The Governor's Council of Economic Advisers, through its Tourism Resumption Blueprint, offers a pathway that recognizes the threats associated with increased arrivals into the CNMI and places the safety of its residents and visitors as its foremost priority. The blueprint recommends implementing enhanced safety protocols—testing upon arrival, quarantine, and reporting and monitoring of visitors—educating stakeholders about the rapid response for containment, and creating travel bubbles.

E-Land Group, which operates Kensington Hotel Saipan, Pacific Islands Club Saipan, and the Coral Ocean Golf Resort, made the first attempt at a travel bubble when it proposed to charter flights to bring tourists from Korea to Saipan to safely vacation within the three E-Land facilities.

The travel bubble is still subject to approval by both the CNMI and Korean governments. Its provisions, along with the other recommendations under the Tourism Resumption Blueprint, will have to be revisited to reflect the current status of the crisis on our islands.

A realistic resumption plan must be driven by all tour-

See TOGETHER on Page 4



INSIDE



BUSINESS

BAB Korean Restaurant will be offering buffet dining in time for Easter Sunday.

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SCIENCE & TECH

China and the U.S. consult each other on safety as their respective spacecrafts head to Mars.

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LIFE & STYLE

Former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin says she tested positive for COVID-19.

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Local

Two Easter egg events at the Sugar King Park

The Rotary Club of Saipan is inviting the community to its first-ever Easter egg event tomorrow, April 3 at the Sugar King Park in Garapan.

The event, which will be held from 9am to noon, will be composed of two separate competitions—an Easter egg hunt and an egg decorating competition—and is open to all ages.

The activities will be grouped into five divisions: for the Easter egg hunt, participants will range from toddlers (ages 1-2); preschool (ages 3-5); elementary (ages 6-10); and middle school (ages 11-13). For the egg decoration contest, participants will consist of high school students (ages 14 and up).

According to Rotary Committee Service director Joann Aquino, the Sugar King Park will be divided into four areas, where the four individual age groups will have their egg hunts.

The three main eggs—golden, silver, and bronze—are considered the grand prize eggs. Whoever finds them will be given a slew of cash prizes and gift certificates. The three eggs will be hidden among the hundreds of other eggs in the separate divisions (three main eggs for each division).

Aquino said the rest of the 2,000 eggs that will be hidden across the whole field will each have a little surprise inside. This could be candy, vouchers for goodie bags, and other mini prizes.

For the high school division's egg decorating contest, students must register at 9am with their school ID. Participants must use a hard-boiled egg and must use any form of medium (paint, crayons, etc.) Although there is no apparent theme for the contest, judges will be looking for overall creativity.

Aquino also confirmed that the event has received approval from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and will observe all necessary protocols.

"...This year the Rotary Club of Saipan wants to share this celebration with our community. We would like to thank all our donors for their contribution in making this a successful and fun-filled event. Our goal is to bring smiles to all children of all ages. We want this event to be as enjoyable and safe as possible so we remind everyone to please observe the protocols we have in place," said Rotary Club Saipan president Sonya Dancoc. *(Neil Fama)*

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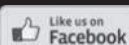
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IPI posts \$367M loss in '20

Embattled Saipan casino investor Imperial Pacific International has reported a loss of HK\$2.85 billion (US\$367 million) for the year ended Dec. 31 2020, impacted by the closure of Imperial Palace Saipan since March.

The absence of gaming operations through much of 2020 saw IPI's revenue plummet 95.1% to just HK\$26.5 million (US\$3.4 million), with the company's once substantial VIP segment seeing rolling chip volume fall from HK\$14.02 billion in 2019 to HK\$846 million. Mass drop fell from HK\$648 million to HK\$110 million.

Confirmation of IPI's 2020 results comes less than a week after it narrowly avoided being placed into receivership by the U.S. District Court of the Northern Mariana Islands by reaching an agreement with the U.S. Department of Labor to pay all money owed to its workers.

The court had previously named a receiver and outlined a raft of powers to take possession and sell off IPI's assets if it was unable to comply with a consent judgement.

Despite ongoing concerns over its financial state, IPI said in its 2020 results announcement that it fully intends to reopen of Imperial Palace Saipan once the COVID-19 pandemic eases.

"Throughout the recovery process our Group remains committed to our mission of enhancing the tourism of Saipan and creating local opportunities," IPI said.

"Despite the current impact from the COVID-19, we believe visitation to the Island of Saipan still has great potential in the long run benefiting from the island's favorable weather, stunning attractions, [proximate] location and flexible visa policies, with more hotels to be built and opened.

"Once the travel restrictions in Saipan are lifted, the casino in Imperial Palace Saipan shall resume operations and be opened to public. We expect the successional opening of villas and hotel rooms of Imperial Palace Saipan, subject to the lifting of the global travel restrictions, will enhance our capacity to welcome visitors to Saipan." (iag newsdesk)

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Administration submits \$144M budget for FY 2022

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

The administration, through the Office of Management and Budget,

Over 31K taxpayers to benefit from first tranche of third stimulus

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Finance Secretary David DLG Atalig said yesterday that over 31,000 taxpayers are expected to benefit from the first tranche of the third stimulus payments.

Speaking at a radio news briefing, Atalig said they expect about \$85 million in the first distribution of the third stimulus and that they hope that the U.S. Internal Revenue Service would finalize their agreement yesterday so the funds could be coming to the CNMI's Treasury Office.

"We hope that the third stimulus will be processed in the next week or two," he said.

Atalig disclosed that they just finalized their agreement with the IRS, and the Division of Revenue Taxation has been making sure and working through some clarification in the agreement.

submitted yesterday to the Legislature a \$144-million budget plan for fiscal year 2022.

Subtracting the government's payments to the Settlement Fund, bonds,

and other obligations, that's roughly around \$100 million that will be left for the general fund, according to Finance Secretary David DLG Atalig at a radio news briefing yesterday.

"We've had that all wrapped up," said Atalig, adding that they expect to send out first the direct deposits to those that have opted to get their stimulus via direct deposit. Right after they're done with those batches, Finance will be sending out paper checks, he said.

As far as the stimulus program goes, he said, they are using the 2019 tax return data.

Atalig said they do understand that there are some people that have adjusted income, and maybe for the 2019 data they do not qualify for stimulus, and then in 2020, they are when they submit their tax refunds.

"We will be using the 2019 data to get the first batches out right away because we have the data," he said.

Atalig said they will also have funds available for those eligible to receive stimulus based on the 2020 tax returns.

He said they will be able to release stimulus checks based on those data.

"Those that do not qualify under the 2020 tax return, again, they still have an opportunity to receive some stimulus money. Unfortunately, it won't be recorded until they submit their 2021 tax returns, which will be next year, next spring," he said.

Under the stimulus program, it's a \$1,400 per taxpayer with valid social security and for every dependent, which means "pretty much 25 years old and under if they are adult dependents." He said there is no limitation on how many dependents a taxpayer has.

"They just need to be qualified dependents, meaning they are bound to have a valid social security number," he said.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) earlier said the American Rescue Plan reduces eligibility for the \$1,400 rebate so no individual making more than \$80,000 qualifies, a change that should have little impact in the Marianas.

been published, so another important piece of evidence is how well the shots revved up the kids' immune systems. Researchers reported high levels of virus-fighting antibodies, somewhat higher than were seen in studies of young adults.

Kids had side effects similar to young adults, the company said. The main side effects are pain, fever, chills and fatigue, particularly after the second dose. The study will continue to track participants for two years for more information about long-term protection and safety.

Dr. Philip J. Landrigan of Boston College said the results are encouraging.

"It's hard to get kids to comply with masking and distancing, so something that gives them hard protection and takes them out of the mix of spreading the virus is all for the good," said Landrigan, who was not involved in the study.

It's another positive development in the race against the virus even as

U.S. cases, at 66,000 new infections a day, are rising again and deaths are averaging nearly 1,000 a day. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention director Dr. Rochelle Walensky warned Americans again Wednesday that "we can't afford to let our guard down."

Pfizer and its German partner BioNTech in the coming weeks plan to ask the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and European regulators to allow emergency use of the shots starting at age 12.

"We share the urgency to expand the use of our vaccine," Pfizer CEO Albert Bourla said in a statement. He expressed "the hope of starting to vaccinate this age group before the start of the next school year" in the United States.

Pfizer isn't the only company seeking to lower the age limit for its vaccine. Results also are expected by the middle of this year from a U.S. study of Moderna's vaccine in 12- to 17-year-olds.

Muña also disclosed that there have been no new cases that have been identified from the familial cluster last March 12. "Our last community-based testing shows all negative results. As of March 30, additional interviews of cases have not yielded any evidentiary links to possible COVID-19 exposure sources," said Muña.

Because it's been a year since the COVID-19 hit the CNMI, Muña says the situation now with getting personal protective equipment has become manageable. She assured that there has been no shortage of PPEs. "We managed to get those supplies to us in preparation for it [COVID-19 pandemic] but we have more than enough right now," she said.

With 39% of the CNMI's adult population having already had their

first inoculations, Muña said now is not the time to slack off. Although 39% is a good percentage, Muña said it's not the number that CHCC is aiming for but she hopes that everyone will get the correct information they need to make the decision to get vaccinated.

"Again, we're asking everyone to stay the course of getting back to the next normal. There's been an uptick around the nation so with the response we are getting for vaccinations, we are definitely CNMI strong," said Muña. "But we want to beat the virus, we want to make sure we are safe. We need to get all the protection we can, practicing three W's, getting vaccinated for ourselves and our loved ones, because we deserve to live and enjoy our time with our families and friends," she added.

"We don't expect a big jump in our numbers and so therefore we continue the same level of Public Law 21-35," he said, referring to the budget law for fiscal year 2021 that allocates a little over \$101 million for government operations.

The budget package includes allocations from the American Rescue Plan and outlines how the money will be used to bring back all furloughed employees and cancel the austerity program that the administration has had in place in the last couple years.

"For the 2022 budget it's pretty much the same level for general revenues. But keep in mind we're still in the pandemic," he said.

Atalig noted that the support from the federal government through the

Pandemic Unemployment Assistance, stimulus payments, and the American Rescue Plan is helping out the territory.

As for locally generated revenues, "we expect the revenues to be the same [because] our tourism industry is not back yet," he said.

Atalig said this is more or less just the local economy, local residents, and returning residents contributing to the economy.

"I do expect that the Legislature will have their opinions on where and how funds should be allocated but that's still up for their review of the budget," he said.

The Legislature has until Sept. 30 to pass this budget for the new fiscal year to prevent any government shutdown.

MARTIN

From Page 1

her home in Chinatown since Sunday.

Pangelinan said that police officers continue to look for her in places where she is known to visit often.

Pangelinan said Martin frequently visits beach sites from the 13 Fishermen's Monument beach down to Tanapag beach.

At the same time, Pangelinan said, DPS remains in constant contact with Martin's family members to know if they have heard from her, or if they have an idea of where she might go.

DPS first received a call last Tuesday at 11:06am that Martin was

missing. Pangelinan said the callers, Martin's daughter and Martin's boyfriend, couldn't locate her since Monday. They both confirmed that their neighbors also didn't see Martin all day on Monday.

As of April 1, DPS' search for Martin has already reached 24 hours, while Martin's family has been searching for her for four days already.

According to *Saipan Tribune* archives, DPS said that Martin was last seen wearing a T-shirt, a traditional mumu skirt (yellow, black, and green), and a blue jacket.

DPS advises the public to call 911 if they have any information about Martin.

TOGETHER

From Page 1

ism stakeholders working together to ensure the CNMI is ready to fully reopen. Last Monday, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, who is GCEA co-chair, met with health officials, hotel and airline representatives, tour operators, the Marianas Visitors Authority, Commonwealth Ports Authority, and other local and federal officials and discussed the blueprint. They raised challenges on the implementation of the plan and gave their insight about how to approach the roadblocks and make it most beneficial for everyone.

The long but substantial dialogue led to the formation of the Tourism Resumption Task Force, which will be co-chaired by CPA chairperson Kimberly King-Hinds and MVA acting chairperson and Hotel Association of the NMI president Gloria Cavanagh.

Herd immunity

A recent American Hospitality and Lodging Association survey showed that leisure travel is expected to return first. The survey also indicated that the vaccine's wide distribution may play a critical role in "reigniting larger leisure travel."

During Monday's stakeholders' meeting, a hotel official said one of the first questions travelers often ask when inquiring about their trip is the vaccination rate or the herd immunity of the destination. Travelers are also interested in low reported infection numbers. At the same meeting, CHCC CEO Esther Muña noted that an 80% or higher vaccination rate is ideal to begin easing restrictions and

create a "new normal" for how we interact with one another.

According to Ms. Muña, 25% of the Commonwealth's population who qualified for the vaccine have been completely inoculated, and 33% have received their first dose. As of March 29, our infection numbers are still low with 159 total cases. CHCC will be ordering more Johnson & Johnson single-dose vaccines, which will help the CNMI reach its 80% target rate for herd immunity by June.

This means that tourism would resume only when it is safe to do so—when there's herd immunity (#VaccinateCNMI) and a clear indication of a diminished threat of infection to residents and visitors.

Going back to work

We often say that "Tourism is Everyone's Business," but we might overlook what that means. In reality, it means that our businesses—restaurants, construction, hotels, and our local government—succeed because of tourism. Tourism revenue is our primary source of income. When the COVID-19 pandemic halted tourism arrivals, the CNMI became, much like many people in our islands, essentially unemployed.

Federal assistance has played a tremendous role in bringing relief, but we know it is temporary. For the good of our islands, we have to go back to work, bring back the lost livelihoods, and provide workers and their families the means to survive by safely reopening our doors to tourists.

TOGETHER, WE CAN welcome visitors back safely. TOGETHER, WE CAN have a golden opportunity to rebuild the tourism industry to better than it was before.

PFIZER

From Page 1

in kids as young as 12, a step toward possibly beginning shots in this age group before they head back to school in the fall.

Most COVID-19 vaccines being rolled out worldwide are for adults, who are at higher risk from the coronavirus. Pfizer's vaccine is authorized for ages 16 and older. But vaccinating children of all ages will be critical to stopping the pandemic — and helping schools, at least the upper grades, start to look a little more normal after months of disruption.

In the vaccine study of 2,260 U.S. volunteers ages 12 to 15, preliminary data showed there were no cases of COVID-19 among fully vaccinated adolescents compared to 18 among those given dummy shots, Pfizer reported.

It's a small study, that hasn't yet

29%

From Page 1

those who have had their first shot already comprise 39% of the adult population in the CNMI.

Right now, the CNMI is using three brands of COVID-19 vaccines: Pfizer/BioNTech, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson. Both Pfizer and Moderna vaccines require two inoculations to be deemed fully vaccinated. The Johnson & Johnson vaccine requires only one shot.

As of April 1, Muña said, the CNMI has 11,700 doses of the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccines and 5,000 doses of the Moderna vaccines. About 400 doses of the Johnson & Johnson/Jessen COVID-19 vaccine will be arriving soon, she added.

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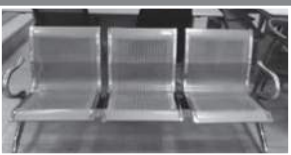
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Mental health training for SVES employees

San Vicente Elementary School teachers and staff had a professional development training on mental health matters last March 29.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

San Vicente Elementary School teachers and staff had a professional development training on mental health matters last March 29 with the Public School System's Mental Health Program—

Project Haligi Aware.

The training, which was intended to communicate the importance of mental health and awareness, taught participants about self-care strategies, coping skills, and stress

management.

"Mental health is...about learning ways to take better care of yourself in a positive manner because if we don't take better care of ourselves, we won't be able to provide

the support that our students need," said SVES principal Paulette Sablan.

Project Haligi Aware prepares teachers and administrative staff to recognize and respond to behavioral and mental health issues among students. A goal of the program is to improve crisis response, intervention, and access to school-based and community mental health services.

"As teachers, it might be challenging to find the time to take care of ourselves when we are always looking after our children at school and home," said Haligi Aware program director Dr. Yvonne R. Pangelinan. "Mental health, like physical health, is about building yourself up so that you are stronger and have coping skills. You can't achieve overall health and well-being without addressing mental health."

Haligi Aware is designed to support all students, staff, and families throughout the CNMI who may be experiencing feelings of sadness or hopelessness to work toward resili-

ence and mental wellness.

Haligi Aware community program Manager, Walter Mendez, said, "...We want to instill confidence in our teachers that there is support like Haligi Aware that they can rely on and be the cushioning they need when they experience moments of desolation. When we reach out to the schools and conduct these professional developments, we aim to leave the teachers and staff with efficient self-care strategies and coping skills that they may practice in their daily lives. Our teachers need to be reminded that they need to take care of their mental wellness so they can work at optimal performance for our students."

Haligi Aware will implement behavioral health methods that help give access to reliable services within the school and community. In the months to follow, Haligi Aware will continue to provide a multi-tiered system of support for mental wellness for PSS students, educators, staff, leaders, and families. (PR)

Jury trial set for woman accused of forging work visa

The U.S. District Court for the NMI will hold a jury trial for a woman who has been accused of forging a U.S. work visa for employment.

Magistrate judge Heather L. Kennedy ordered a jury trial last March 31 for Svetlana M. Maala. The jury date is scheduled for June 8, 2021.

The federal government said that Maala "knowingly

forged, counterfeited, altered, and falsely made a non-immigrant visa...as evidence of authorized stay and employment in the United States." It added that Maala attempted to use the fraudulent visa on or about June 7, 2018, as evidence of authorized stay and employment in the U.S.

Maala is also being charged with one count of fraud and

misuse of visa, but she pleaded not guilty to the charge. She was released by the court on her own personal recognizance.

Maala, through her court-appointed attorney, Colin Thompson, waived her right to an indictment and waived the advisement of her constitutional rights as well as the reading of the charges against her. (Justine Nauta)



UNITED STATES

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Developmental Disabilities Basic State Grant Program
Bldg. No. 1312, Capitol Hill • P.O. Box 502565, Saipan, MP 96950-2565
Tel.: (670) 664-7000 • Fax: (670) 664-7030 • Email: info@cnmicdd.org
Website: www.cnmicdd.org



COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT NOTICE

CNMI Council on Developmental Disabilities 2022-2026 State Plan Goals & Objectives

The CNMI Council on Developmental Disabilities (CDD) will be on Rota to conduct surveys to gather information from the community to develop the 2022 to 2026 CDD State Plan.

ROTA

April 5, 2021 – Tiana's Café-Valentino Hotel, Songsong Village

10:00am – 12:00pm

The information gathered will help the Council create a plan on the areas of importance that the CNMI community wants the Council to focus on for the next five years.

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION: For reasonable accommodation, please call the office of the CNMI Council on Developmental Disabilities at least seven (7) days prior to the event at 664-7000/3/5 or email to: cnmicouncilondd@gmail.com.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

RENATO G. CALAGE, JR.
Petitioner
vs.
Cresette Bartolome
Respondent,
) FCD-DI
) CIVIL ACTION
) NO. 20-0317
)
) SUMMONS
) FOR
) PUBLICATION

TO THE ABOVE NAME RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is P.O. Box 5505 CHRB Saipan, MP 96950 as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at P.O. Box 500307 Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 9th day of October, 2020.

/s/ Clerk of Court

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: 234-7859 | Fax: 234-5750
Attorney for Plaintiff Bernadita Cabrera Palacios

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BERNADITA CABRERA PALACIOS,
Plaintiff,
vs.
HONG DA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION,
Defendant.
) Civil Action
) No. 21-0003
)
) AMENDED
) SUMMONS BY
) PUBLICATION

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT, HONG DA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION:

You have been made a Defendant in the suit filed in this Commonwealth Superior Court by Plaintiff Bernadita Cabrera Palacios, on her COMPLAINT FOR RECOVERY OF POSSESSION AND DAMAGES PURSUANT TO THE HOLDOVER TENANCY ACT.

You may file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint filed against you in this action within **Twenty-One (21) Days** after the date of the last publication of this Summons. You must deliver or mail a copy of your answer to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya), P.O. Box 503758 CK, Saipan, MP 96950, or as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Court of the above-entitled Court for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Office of the Clerk of Court, CNMI SUPERIOR COURT, 1st Floor, Guma' Hustisia, Limwal Aweewe, House of Justice, Susupe Village, P.O. Box 500307, Saipan MP 96950-0307. It may be prepared and signed for you by your Attorney and sent to the Clerk of Court by messenger or by mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this Summons, judgement by default pursuant to the court rules of the above-entitled Court may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

Dated this 26th day of March, 2021.

/s/ Clerk of Court

PSS mental health team hosts work session on child abuse and neglect policy



Participants in the child abuse and neglect policy work session last March 30, 2021, pose for a photo. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Public School System's Mental Health Program—Project Haligi Aware—held a child abuse and neglect policy work session on March 30, 2021, with district staff and local partnering agencies, such as the Division of Youth Services, the Department of Public Safety, and the Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence and the Office of the Attorney General.

The main goal was to review and make necessary changes to the existing standard operating procedures

when child abuse or neglect is suspected and reported. All partnering agencies present at the event have a significant role in providing the necessary support for neglected or abused children,

therefore creating streamlined processes across all partnering agencies is critical to providing optimal protection and safety for children.

"This work session is a reminder that there are so many

people in our community who love and care for children and want the best for them. We may have different ideas about how to do that work, but we are all in it for the same purpose at the end of the day. We want to create a safe environment for our kids, empower them, empower parents, and empower our community to do their part and keep our children safe," said Maisie B. Tenorio, executive director of the Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence and

Board of Education member.

Education Commissioner Dr. Alfred Ada said, "Our students are our priority. We will do anything to make our children safe. ... We support initiatives that aim to improve and complement the child protection systems and protocols established to safeguard our children from all forms of risk."

Haligi Aware and local partnering agencies are committed to continued collaboration in order to improve the standard

operating procedures to ensure the inclusion of children's safety and mental wellness. Haligi Aware supports the CNMI PSS goal of providing a safe and caring learning environment that supports all students' behavioral health and academic achievement. *Haligi* is the Chamorro term for the pillar of the Latte Stone and, like the *haligi*, the project team aspires to support the mental wellbeing of all PSS students, staff, and families. (PR)

SCC Good Friday, Easter Sunday services

Saipan Community Church will hold its traditional Good Friday service tonight at 7pm. Pastor Steve Dame will lead the service.

The Susupe church will also have its traditional Easter Sunday service on Sunday, April

4, 6am with Dame also leading the service. The regular Sunday service will follow at 10:15am. Everyone is invited to attend.

SCS is located along Beach Road across the Mobil gas station in Susupe. (PR)

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2 UCEDD trainees make public speaking debut

Two student employees at the CNMI University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities at the Northern Marianas College took the floor at a mini-workshop on Feb. 26 at the Fiesta Resort &

Spa Saipan to talk about the UCEDD program to disability stakeholders, including high school students with disabilities. The mini-workshop was designed to reinforce what is being taught at the Center for

Living Independently.

Tahani Mafnas, who began her work study at UCEDD last fall semester, her presentation covered the UCEDD's four core functions, which are interdisciplinary pre-service

training and continuing education, community services, research, and dissemination of information, and explained the unique relationship the CNMI UCEDD has with the University of Hawaii's Pacific

Basin University Centers for Excellence, or PBUCE. All 67 UCEDDs in the states and territories (some have more than one UCEDD) are associated with a major research university, and for this reason CNMI UCEDD falls under the umbrella of and is a recipient of technical assistance from the PBUCE.

So far, Mafnas is enjoying learning about disabilities including hot topics such as "assistive technology, universal design, and inclusiveness." The best part, she added, "is working with some of UCEDD's partners like the Council on Developmental Disabilities, Northern Marianas Protection and Advocacy Systems, Inc., Family to Family Health Information Center, and the Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority," to name just a few.

Ruth Ann Torres, who joined the team this spring semester, co-presented alongside Mafnas. She emphasized the importance of collaboration in the work that UCEDD does. Primarily, UCEDD works in partnership with the Developmental Disabilities Council and the Northern Marianas Protection and Advocacy Systems Inc.

"Known as the CNMI Developmental Disabilities Network, these three federally-mandated programs make up the tri-agency with a focus on advocacy, capacity building, and systems change," said Torres.

On a larger scale, UCEDD



Mafnas



Torres

continues its active membership in the CNMI Disability Network Partners, or DNP, to promote other focus areas (e.g., independent living, special education, health, emergency preparedness, etc.) that help to enhance the lives of individuals with disabilities.

Though she is "still quite new to UCEDD...the experience has truly been a thrill. I've learned many new things

about advocating for those who feel like they do not have a voice, and I met many new wonderful people including members of UCEDD's Consumer Advisory Committee and advocates from NMPASI, DD Council, and various other organizations," said Torres, who also expressed gratitude for the "opportunity UCEDD has given me, and I look forward to a future of personal and professional growth."

Other topics covered during the workshop spearheaded by the CLI and supported by UCEDD and numerous other programs included transportation, assistive technology, transition, vocational rehabilitation, consumer rights, health information, and advocacy.

Mafnas and Torres are both pursuing a degree in Rehabilitation and Human Services under the School of Education at the Northern Marianas College.

For more information about UCEDD, email cnmi.ucedd@marianas.edu or visit marianas.edu/ucedd. (PR)

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

4.9-magnitude quake in Guam

At 1:02pm on April 1, 2021, a report of a 4.9-magnitude earthquake occurred 160 kilometers south-southwest of Merizo, Guam. Currently, there are no tsunami warnings or advisories that were issued by the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center. For more information, contact the CNMI EOC State Warning Point at 237-8000. (PR)

5.2-magnitude quake in Guam

At 7:19am on April 1, 2021 a report of a 5.2-magnitude earthquake occurred 164 kilometers south-southwest of Merizo, Guam. Currently, there are no tsunami warnings or advisories that were issued by the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center. For more information, contact the CNMI EOC State Warning Point at 237-8000. (PR)

Power service interruption on Tuesday

There will be a scheduled

power service interruption on Tuesday, April 6, 2021, from 8:30am to 12:30pm for Commonwealth Utilities Corp. customers along As Gonno Road in Koblerville. This will allow CUC linemen to safely replace an existing rotted three-phase primary power pole fronting Coral Ocean Point.

The KV-20 water well will be affected. (PR)

Scheduled power service interruption on Wednesday

There will be a scheduled power service interruption on Wednesday, April 7, 2021, from 8:30am to 12:30pm for Commonwealth Utilities Corp. customers in Kagman I. This will allow CUC linemen to safely relocate an existing three-phase primary power pole and primary conductors in the Kagman I homestead area. Water well(s) affected: KG-131, KG-18, KG-19 and Kagman Booster 2. Water service area(s) affected: entire Kagman. Wastewater lift station affected: None. (PR)



Parent respondents sought for survey on language immersion

The Leliyal Akk-abwung Carolinian and Chamorro CNMI PSS Language Immersion program is reaching out to the community in

a survey that asks parents in the CNMI about their opinion on the use of the language immersion program in the classroom.

Program adviser Valrick Welch said they submitted a competitive proposal to the Administration of Native Americans to fund a five-year language immersion program at Kagman Elementary School last year, but it wasn't funded.

"A main weakness pointed out by the reviewers is they didn't see immersion language as a high priority in our community. The surveys should help, and I can use them to influence our Legislature to pass a resolution in support of the heritage languages," said Welch in an email to *Saipan Tribune*.

The language immersion program is a teaching method that incorporates the use of Chamorro and Carolinian languages within lessons in classrooms. This means that teachers will communicate their teachings using their heritage languages across all the taught subjects except for English. The main goal is to teach

students how to speak their heritage language with their elders.

According to Welch, he wrote the grant for the program that

was approved three years ago, and, within all three years, was implemented at Kagman Elementary School, which is the only school on the island that provides this program for their kindergarten classes.

Welch wants to expand the program to students up to 5th grade. With more than 200 responses within the Kagman community, Welch used that to support his latest grant request. However, the ANA couldn't see this as a big enough priority for the community.

This then led Welch to create a survey directed to all parents in the CNMI. According to Welch, if the project expansion is approved, funding would cover the salary of teachers, the salary for the project manager, and a coach who would oversee the teachers during class and give guidance.

"The goal for the Administration of Native Americans is to provide programs for the community to thrive. The way to do that is getting children and grandparents talking, using their heritage language," Welch said. *(Neil Fama)*



Wishing everyone a safe and enjoyable Easter.

Happy Easter!

From the Office of
Senate President
Jude Untalan Hofschneider
and the Members of the 22nd
Senate Commonwealth Legislature

May the promises of Easter, to renew us each day to restore our last hope, fill our heart with peace and joy and may it be a new beginning of greater prosperity, success, and happiness.

H A P P Y
Easter



**JONES & GUERRERO
COMPANY, INC.**



Opinion

Hafa Adai! Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

Pass new gun laws now

Two mass shootings in less than a week have left 18 dead. Once again, families are shattered. Once again, flags are at half-mast. Once again, strip malls are now memorial sites. After a year of lockdowns, does this burst of mass shootings suggest, as some have grimly said, that the U.S. is returning to normal?

In fact, though gun violence receded from the headlines in 2020, it never went away. Last year was the deadliest for gun homicides in more than two decades. Meanwhile, gun suicides skirted their all-time high. These lesser-seen tragedies also devastated families and communities, just as surely as the horrors in Colorado and Georgia. The causes of gun violence are undoubtedly complex, but better laws could have prevented many of these deaths.

Let's be clear: America's gun violence crisis is a policy crisis. The U.S. has more gun murders than any other country in the wealthy world, in part because guns are so accessible and laws are uniquely lax. Its gun suicide rate and gun injury rates are similarly high. And, of course, no other country has such a numbingly persistent mass shooting problem. The gunman who allegedly attacked a Colorado supermarket on March 22 was born three days before the 1999 Columbine massacre, which introduced generations of U.S. schoolkids to "active shooter" drills. Such a scenario would be unthinkable in any other country.

Earlier this month, House lawmakers passed two bipartisan bills that would expand and strengthen the country's background-check system, which currently misses about 1 in 5 gun sales. These policy fixes are broadly popular with the American public, including the vast majority of gun owners. They include strong safeguards to ensure all legal purchases can go forward. They would certainly not "confiscate" guns, as some have irresponsibly suggested.

But they would prevent firearms from falling into the hands of dangerous people—like the white supremacist who murdered nine worshipers at a South Carolina church in 2015. The system allowed him to purchase a gun he wasn't legally eligible to buy, thanks to a loophole that one of the bills would close. The other bill would make the background check system universal, closing gaps that exist for gun show and internet sales. This law will save lives. In the more than one dozen states that already have such universal background checks, gun homicide rates are nearly 10% lower.

Other policy interventions are worth considering, including a new "red flag" law and a renewed assault-weapons ban. While Washington ponders, many cities and states are taking bold action to fight gun violence on their own. But the mass murders earlier this month show that gun violence is a national problem—one that demands a national solution. Lawmakers in the Senate have two smart fixes right on their desks. They should pass them without delay.

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When can kids get the COVID-19 vaccine? A pediatrician answers 5 questions parents are asking

Editor's Note: The Conversation is an independent and nonprofit source of news, analysis and commentary from academic experts.

A big question among parents and teachers as more schools reopen is when their kids will be vaccinated against COVID-19. Some have wondered whether the vaccine is even necessary for children. There is news on that front. In a press release on March 31, 2021, vaccine maker Pfizer suggested its vaccine is as effective in children ages 12-15 as it is in young adults. However the results of Pfizer's vaccine trials in adolescents have not been fully released or reviewed by the Food and Drug Administration, and that will take several weeks.

Dr. James Wood, a pediatrician and assistant professor of pediatric infectious diseases, explains what doctors know today about the risk children face of getting and spreading the coronavirus and when vaccines might be available.

Do kids really need to get the COVID-19 vaccine?

The short answer is yes. A lot of studies have shown that COVID-19 isn't as severe in children, particularly younger kids—but that doesn't mean kids aren't at risk of getting infected and potentially spreading the virus.

Children under 12 who get COVID-19 do tend to have mild illnesses or no symptoms, while teenagers seem to have responses somewhere between what adults and younger kids have experienced. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found that teens were about twice as likely to be diagnosed with COVID-19 as children ages 5-11.

Researchers are still trying to understand why we're seeing these differences between older and younger kids. Behavior probably plays a part. Teenagers are more likely to engage in social or group activities, and they may or may not be wearing masks. Immune differences and biologic factors may also play a role. Non-SARS-CoV-2 coronaviruses are common in children, often resulting in upper respiratory infection. Is their frequent exposure to other coronaviruses helping protect them from severe COVID-19? That is one hypothesis. We know younger kids' immune responses in general are different from adults, and likely play a role in protection.

It's important to remember that while most children get only mild symptoms, they still face risks. At least 226 U.S. children with COVID-19 have died, and thousands have been hospitalized.

The key to minimizing the risk is to make sure kids eventually get vaccinated, follow social distancing recommendations and wear masks.

Are kids spreading the virus?

In a setting like a school where mask-wearing and social distancing

By **JAMES B. WOOD**

Indiana University School of Medicine



are enforced, young kids seem to not spread the virus very much when the rules and guidelines are being followed. One CDC review found little difference in community cases in counties with elementary schools open and those with remote learning.

If precautions aren't being taken, children infected with the coronavirus very well could spread it to adults. What isn't clear yet is how great that risk is.

To keep schools as safe as possible, continuing schoolwide mask and social distancing policies will be important. With teenagers in particular, mask rules can't hinge on whether the person has been vaccinated or not. Until herd immunity within the whole community is at a good level, social distancing and masking is still going to be the recommendation.

So, when can kids get vaccinated?

Right now, the Pfizer vaccine is the only one in the U.S. authorized for teenagers as young as 16. Before kids under 16 can be vaccinated, clinical trials need to be completed in thousands of young volunteers to assess the vaccines' safety and efficacy, and the results must be fully reviewed and then authorized by the Food and Drug Administration.

Pfizer said it expects to submit results from its adolescent trials for review soon. Vaccine manufacturer Moderna also has trials underway with adolescents. If their vaccines are shown to be safe and effective and regulators authorize them, kids 12 and up could be vaccinated before school starts in the fall.

Realistically, young children probably won't be eligible for the vaccine until late fall or winter at the earliest. Moderna announced in mid-March that it had started testing its vaccine in children ages 6 months to 11 years. Pfizer said it is also starting testing in young children, but these trials take time.

What's different about the vaccines kids will get?

The composition of the COVID-19 vaccines for children is the same as used in adults—the difference is that children may re-

See COVID-19 on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Are we gluttons for punishment? New study shows a bias for bad news about COVID-19

Back in September, I wrote about how in the midst of the pandemic, there was a lot of good news that wasn't getting much coverage.

At the time, the positivity rate of COVID-19 tests and hospitalization rate were both in decline. It was obvious to those who closely monitored the data, but news coverage didn't reflect it. Instead, it largely focused on areas where caseloads were growing.

Promising new treatments, breakthroughs in vaccine development and studies that showed viral spread in schools really wasn't happening, were all jettisoned for the most apocalyptic public health predictions, many of which—to this day—have not come to fruition.

That column caused apoplexy for some readers, who wrote to tell me that my sunniness was insensitive or ignorant. But I knew from reading science journals and just looking at data that everything wasn't terrible.

That was a difficult argument to make in the face of an unremitting tide of negativity. But I was sure my perception wasn't completely off.

Turns out, there was a good reason why I felt that way.

In a recently published working paper, Dartmouth College economics professor Bruce Sacerdote and two fellow researchers, Ranjan Sehgal and Molly Cook, analyzed media coverage during the pandemic. They found that national U.S. publications and networks produced dramatically more negative coverage than international, regional and scientific news sources.

The researchers built a database of news coverage, categorizing by topic more than 9.4 million published stories, and used

a social science technique that classifies language as positive, negative or neutral.

They determined that 87% of U.S. media coverage could be classified as negative, compared to 64% of news reported in scientific journals and just over half of coverage in international and regional/local media outlets.

Among the top 15 media outlets in the U.S. (by readership/viewership), COVID-19 stories were 25 percentage points more likely to be negative than more general U.S. sources or major media outlets outside the U.S.

Is it any wonder that the CDC actually suggested Americans reduce news consumption as a means of coping with increasing stress, anxiety and depression during the pandemic?

Somewhat surprisingly, the negativity didn't appear to be partisan. Media outlets with typically liberal and typically conservative audiences both appeared to prefer a somber approach to news coverage.

But, as the study authors note, during a period when case numbers were dropping nationally, U.S. major media still had a penchant for reporting on President Donald Trump's refusal to wear a mask rather than stories about vaccine research and declining caseloads.

One response to this analysis might be, so what? The pandemic has still been terrible and perhaps the skewed news coverage has prompted more responsible social behavior rather than complacency.

Perhaps. The researchers found that reporting in the U.S. was a lot more likely to promote behaviors such as wearing masks and social distancing. To what effect, though, we don't know.

By **CYNTHIA M. ALLEN**

Fort Worth Star-Telegram



Cynthia M. Allen is a columnist for the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. Readers may send her email at cmallen@star-telegram.com.

Sacerdote and his colleagues considered the impact of negativity in reporting on school reopenings, too. While they found that counties that rely less on national media sources were more likely to have reopened schools, the researchers were also able to conclude that negative national stories caused fewer schools to reopen.

And it's fair to wonder if the national media's reluctance to report on early vaccine successes is responsible for some of the hesitancy people have to getting now; the researchers offer nothing conclusive in this regard.

They do, however, suggest that media coverage is driven by audience appetite, (and people tend to want bad news for reasons that require more psychological analysis than I can do here).

The nagging problem about news coverage so obviously skewed is that it contributes to the sense that the media are telling you what they think you need to hear.

It's notable that this seems to be an overwhelming problem for the national media but far less so for local and regional coverage. Although none of us is harmed by a little introspection.

Investigating heartbreaking news

Today I was planning to take you with me on some in-depth investigative journalism into how and why we failed to better curtail the COVID-19 mass-killer. But, searching NBC's website, I have stumbled across something that doesn't look like breaking news, but seems more like spot-on satire worthy of "Saturday Night Live."

It is dated March 25, 2020, and is a network anchor interviewing a person identified as Dr. Deborah Birx, President Donald Trump's coronavirus task force coordinator. The interviewee is standing in front of a White House backdrop, is wearing a Birx trademark colorful scarf, and is being asked an ideal satirical setup question: How is Trump doing behind the scenes in dealing with the COVID-19 crisis?

Well by March 25, 2020, we already had a pretty good idea about that. A month earlier, Trump had told us America's few COVID-19 cases would soon "be down to close to zero"—instead America already had more than 85,000 COVID-19 cases. Trump was also repeatedly saying he wanted to reopen the country and fill church pews by Easter Sunday 2020. And we also knew that Trump hated detailed policy briefings. Also, his briefers figured out long ago that they needed to insert his name frequently into written material—just so he'd keep reading it.

But here on this video that popped up when I searched NBC, the person introduced as Birx was saying just the opposite, effusively and excessively. Her words sounded like biting scripted satire. She even was portraying Trump as a biz wiz who digs detailed "granularity!" Ha! Here, listen for yourself to her complete answer:

"He's been so attentive to the scientific literature and the details and the data. And I think his ability to analyze and integrate data that comes out of his long history in business has really been

a real benefit during these discussions about medical issues. Because in the end, data is data, and he understands the importance of the granularity. And I think he's been really excited about finding the level of detail that we've been able to now bring over the last few weeks to really understand who's at the greatest risk for severe illness, who will have mild and asymptomatic disease, and really calling on every American to do that social distancing, because some people may not know they're actually infected and be unknowingly spreading the virus. And that all comes from the president seeing the data and really directing these policies and these guidelines that go out to the American people."

Uh-oh! TIME OUT! Boy is my face red! Apparently in my rush to search "NBC," I typed it backwards—"CBN." So we weren't watching some "SNL" satire on NBC. We were watching the real Dr. Birx being interviewed on CBN—the Christian Broadcasting Network. So the highly regarded and decorated medical doctor, whom we trusted all year to give us the straight-talk news we needed to know, had actually dished us that gush of effusive praise about her boss, our president.

So there is absolutely nothing funny about Birx's words when they are lit by the spotlight of reality. But the bright light reveals a perspective we need to factor into some heartbreaking breaking news we recently saw. Last Sunday, at a time when more than 550,000 Americans have died from COVID-19, Birx said on a CNN documentary that America might have saved hundreds of thousands from dying of COVID-19 if we had just firmly persevered with our pandemic restrictions mandating masks and safe distancing.

"The first time we have an excuse," Birx said. "There were about a hundred thousand deaths that came from that original

By **MARTIN SCHRAM**

Tribune News Service



Martin Schram, an op-ed columnist for Tribune News Service, is a veteran Washington journalist, author and TV documentary executive. Readers may send him email at martin.schram@gmail.com.

surge. All of the rest of them, in my mind, could have been mitigated or decreased substantially."

But wait. What she is really explaining to us is that every time she misled us into thinking our president was not just competent but excellent enough to be trusted in mid-pandemic, she was doing a disservice to us all. That includes her words on March 25, 2020, and ever since. She knew better than she spoke. She and her colleagues who feared to tell us the whole truth about our president gave Americans a false sense that they could trust our president's word. Even when Trump and his team urged them to attend campaign events maskless and massing in close contact. Even when, this past month, they failed to warn Americans that Republican governors who rushed to reopen their states too soon—and allowed spring breakers to frolic and spend money in their states.

Fearful of incurring Donald Trump's wrath, they became complicit in a cause that sent hundreds of thousands of Americans to their doom.

Heartbreaking news.

COVID-19

From Page 10

quire a different dose.

The first step in vaccine trials is to figure out the right dose. The companies want to find the lowest possible dose that is both safe and produces a target level of antibodies. For example, Moderna uses a 100-microgram dose in adults. It is testing three different doses for children under age 2—25, 50 and 100 micrograms—and two doses for children over age 2, at 50 and 100 micrograms.

Once the company determines the optimal dose, it will launch a placebo-controlled trial to test its effectiveness, in which some children will get a placebo and some will get the vaccine.

A rigorous system for pediatric vaccine trials is well estab-

lished in the U.S. These trials are key to assessing the safety and efficacy of vaccines in children, which can differ from adults.

I am optimistic that a safe and effective vaccine will be available for children. Thus far, there have not been any safety signals from either the adult or adolescent studies that have been worrying to me as a pediatrician, but the studies still need to be done in children.

How can parents create safe playdates for kids?

When I talk to parents, I explain that it's a risk-versus-benefit question. Each family has a different tolerance.

From a medical standpoint, the mental health of kids and having them play with other kids is an important part of childhood.

I would say that unvaccinated kids playing indoors without






masks on is still not a great idea. The risk is just too high at this point. As weather warms up, I would encourage kids to play outside. Ride bikes, play and socialize—just do it in a safe manner.

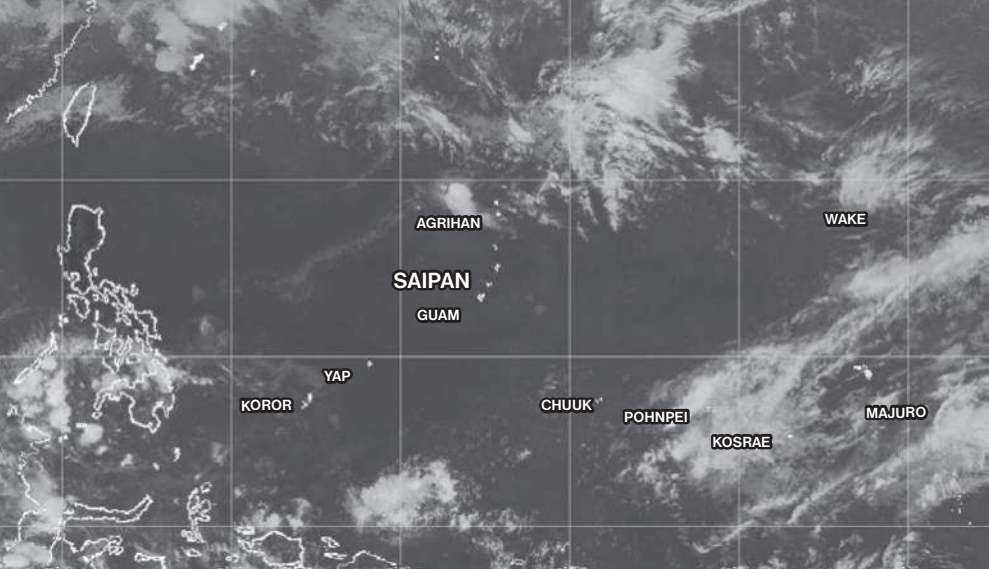
We all have pandemic fatigue, including medical professionals. As the weather gets warmer, I think everyone just wants to get back to normal. The worst thing we can do, right as we start to see a light at the end, is fall backward again—because that would just make it that much longer for everyone.

This story was updated with Pfizer's announcement on March 31.

This article is republished from The Conversation under a Creative Commons license. Read the original article here: <https://theconversation.com/when-can-kids-get-the-covid-19-vaccine-a-pediatrician-answers-5-questions-parents-are-asking-157512>.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY	
									
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 5 to 15 mph.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 5 to 15 mph.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	
86°	76°	86°	76°	86°	76°	86°	76°	86°	76°
YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE									



PICTURE TIME: 5:50 AM, THURSDAY, APRIL 1, 2021
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Some low clouds and a few light showers are seen across the Marianas this morning, with gentle trade winds. But satellite is also showing mid-level clouds and some showers well southeast of the islands. At the buoys, seas are generally between 5 and 6 feet.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

STOP THE SPREAD

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.


- Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.
- Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.
- Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.
- Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.
- Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.
- Create a household plan of action, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklisthousehold-ready.html>
- Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

Continue good hand hygiene

- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic

- Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:
 - Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.
 - Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20



seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Limiting visitors

CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30 pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html>

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit www.governor.gov.mp and, follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at <http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html> and at www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19.

Rumor control

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

Source: Office of the Governor

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235.3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website: www.saipantribune.com.

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MICRONESIA			▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Mostly cloudy	86 78 °F	
Palau	Thunderstorms	85 78 °F	
Yap	Thunderstorms	86 71 °F	
Chuuk	Rain	85 81 °F	
Pohnpei	Overcast	86 79 °F	
Kosrae	Overcast	84 78 °F	
Majuro	Mostly cloudy	83 79 °F	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:11 AM	6:29 PM
Saturday	6:11 AM	6:29 PM
Sunday	6:10 AM	6:29 PM
Monday	6:09 AM	6:29 PM
Tuesday	6:09 AM	6:30 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	9:45 AM	11:11 PM
Saturday	-	10:42 AM	-
Sunday	12:14 AM	11:40 AM	-
Monday	1:13 AM	12:40 PM	-
Tuesday	2:07 AM	1:38 PM	-

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Overcast	74 59 °F	
Beijing	Partly cloudy	61 41 °F	
Hong Kong	Cloudy	77 70 °F	
Honolulu	Sunny	84 71 °F	
London	Mostly cloudy	68 51 °F	
Los Angeles	Sunny	83 57 °F	
Manila	Sunny	94 76 °F	
Melbourne	Partly cloudy	62 50 °F	
Miami	Sunny	81 71 °F	
New York	Sunny	53 40 °F	
Osaka	Sunny	64 46 °F	
Paris	Mostly sunny	71 50 °F	
Pusan	Partly cloudy	66 43 °F	
Rome	Sunny	72 47 °F	
Salem	Partly cloudy	62 52 °F	
San Francisco	Sunny	66 55 °F	
Seoul	Cloudy	60 39 °F	
Tokyo	Sunny	61 46 °F	
Washington, DC	Mostly sunny	56 43 °F	

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
5:04 AM	Low Tide	1.00	
10:15 AM	High Tide	1.90	
5:36 PM	Low Tide	-0.21	
-	-	-	

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MARCH 29, 2021

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	6:30am	7:10am	1, 4, 5, 6	UA174	4:50am	5:31am	1, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
UA117/183	6:30am	8:50pm	5 via Guam	UA184/174	9:50pm	5:31am+1	5 via Guam
GUAM-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-GUAM			
UA183	7:05pm	8:50pm	5	UA184	9:50pm	3:45am+1	5
UA183	7:15pm	9:10pm	1, 3,	UA184	10:25pm	4:10am+1	1, 3

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 9, 2021

SAIPAN TO ROTA				1202	8:00	8:15	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1203	9:00	9:15	Daily
1301	8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri	1204	10:00	10:15	Daily
1302	11:00AM	11:30AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri/Sat	1205	11:00	11:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1303	3:30PM	4:00PM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri/Sun	1206	12:00	12:15	Temporarily Unavailable
ROTA TO SAIPAN				1207	13:00	13:15	Temporarily Unavailable
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1208	14:00	14:15	Daily
3101	9:30AM	10:00AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri	1209	15:00	15:15	Daily
3102	12:00AM	12:30AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri/Sat	1210	16:00	16:15	Daily
3103	4:30PM	5:00PM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri/Sun	1211	17:00	17:15	Daily
ROTA TO GUAM				1212	17:00	17:15	Temporarily Unavailable
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
3401	12:15	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable	FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
GUAM TO ROTA				2101	7:30	7:45	Temporarily Unavailable
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
4301	13:00	13:30	Temporarily Unavailable	2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
SAIPAN TO TINIAN				2104	10:30	10:45	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2105	11:30	11:45	Temporarily Unavailable
1201	7:00	7:15	Temporarily Unavailable	2106	12:30	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily	2107	13:30	13:45	Temporarily Unavailable
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily	2108	14:30	14:45	Daily
1204	10:00	10:15	Daily	2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
1205	11:00	11:15	Temporarily Unavailable	2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
1206	12:00	12:15	Temporarily Unavailable	2111	17:30	17:45	Daily
1207	13:00	13:15	Temporarily Unavailable	2112	18:30	18:45	Temporarily Unavailable
1208	14:00	14:15	Daily				
1209	15:00	15:15	Daily				
1210	16:00	16:15	Daily				
1211	17:00	17:15	Daily				
1212	17:00	17:15	Temporarily Unavailable				

TSL Foundation awards prizes to Miss Marianas winners

The Tan Siu Lin Foundation presented cash prizes to Miss Marianas Savannah Delos Santos, first runner-up Bernadette Horey, and second runner-up Ha'ane Eugenio last week.

Delos Santos, who bested seven other candidates in the 2021 Miss Marianas pageant last Feb. 13 at the Hyatt Regency Saipan Ballroom, received \$3,000. Horey and Eugenio got \$1,500 and \$750, respectively, while the five other contestants of the Stellar Marianas-organized event—Vincent Rabasto, Toremy Diaz, Naomi Lizama, Richelle Ramon, and Lily Carillo—were awarded \$300 each.

"This is a token of our appreciation to all of you...for taking part in the 2021 Miss Marianas and getting involved in the pageant's community activities and for all the hard work you did for this great event," said Merlie Tolentino, executive director of the TSL Foundation—the charitable arm of TanHoldings.

TanHoldings chief executive officer Jerry Tan joined Tolentino in the presentation of prizes to Delos Santos and company and commended them for accepting the challenge of the competition and embracing the opportunity to lead the pageant's many advocacies.

Delos Santos, who will represent the CNMI at the 2021



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Miss Marianas Savannah Delos Santos, fourth from right, Stellar Marianas president Michelle Sablan, right, and the competition's other winners and candidates present a plaque of appreciation to TanHoldings chief executive officer Jerry Tan, fifth from right, for the company and Tan Siu Lin Foundation's support of the pageant. Joining Tan in the presentation were TSL Foundation executive director Merlie Tolentino, sixth from left, and administrative officer Mel Naputi, fourth from left.

Miss International in Yokohama, Japan, thanked the TSL Foundation for the prizes and for its contribution to the success of the pageant. She said she will use the cash prize for her national costume and evening gown when she competes in Japan in November.

Meanwhile, Stellar Marianas president Michelle Sablan presented the TSL Foundation with a plaque of appreciation for its continued support to the pageant. Sablan added that besides backing up last month's Miss Marianas competition, the TSL Foundation had earlier committed \$10,000 to Stellar Marianas to fund the Miss Universe Pageant's charter fee and allow the CNMI to send a representative to the Miss Universe again. Shequita Bennett was the Commonwealth's last representative to the Miss Universe, when she competed at the 2006 edition of the pageant in Los Angeles, California. (PR)



The Division of Coastal Resources Management is looking for 15 CNMI-based college students or college-bound high school graduates with an interest in learning more about coral reef and coastal zone management. Our summer interns work 20 hours a week for 10 weeks from June to August and are paid \$10.00 per hour.

To be considered, please submit the following documents by email to outreach@dcrm.gov.mp

CNMI EMPLOYMENT APPLICATION

Which can be found at www.cnmiopm.net

COVER LETTER

RESUME/CV

TRANSCRIPTS

Official or Unofficial

TWO (2) LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Instructors and/or Employers Only

POLICE CLEARANCE

Within the Last 3 Months

COPY OF VALID PHOTO ID

Driver's License, Passport, etc.

APPLY BY
FRIDAY,
APRIL 9, 2021

This summer's internship opportunities include:

MARINE MONITORING • EDUCATION & OUTREACH

SHORELINE MONITORING • SPECIAL AREA MANAGEMENT • REGULATORY COMPLIANCE

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION • WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

For more information, contact DCRM at

664-8300 or visit our website at WWW.DCRM.GOV.MP



US territories invited to apply for \$8.5M grant; deadline is June 30

Proposals are now being accepted for the Office of Insular Affairs' Energizing Insular Communities program funding for fiscal year 2021. The total funding available to the territories is \$8.5 million. Those eligible to apply are local government entities, independent authorities, and educational institutions located in the U.S. territories of American Samoa, Guam, the CNMI, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The deadline to apply is June 30, 2021.

"The EIC program will be used to support the Biden-Harris Administration's priorities for clean energy to power the future in the U.S. territories as part of larger efforts toward energy security for America," said OIA director and acting U.S. Department of the Interior assistant secretary Nikolao Pula. "We look forward to working with the governors in advancing their energy priorities in the territories."

Each proposal will be re-

viewed and evaluated for two important criteria:

1) whether the proposal is directly tied to the territory's strategic energy plan, energy action plan, or integrated resource plan; and

2) whether there is a projected energy cost savings to end-users.

OIA recently entered into an interagency agreement with the U.S. Department of Energy thereby making technical assistance and expertise from DOE available to the territories. Applicants should indicate interest for such assistance in their application. All applications should be submitted through the federal website for grants at Grants.Gov—where the EIC grant is listed under the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance number 15.875. For detailed instructions, visit <https://www.doi.gov/oia/financial-assistance>.

For more information about the Office of Insular Affairs visit <http://www.doi.gov/oia>. (PR)



IN OBSERVANCE OF LENT

As part of their Lenten activities, Mount Carmel School's 8th-grade students created portraits of Jesus for their "Significant Events in Jesus' Life" project.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

MCS reminds families to avail of Early Bird Special

Mount Carmel School is encouraging parents to take advantage of the school's Early Bird Special for school year 2021-2022. This provides a variety of discounts for families looking to secure their child's enrollment for the upcoming school year.

The annual early bird registration discount is as follows: For grades K4-K5 registration is \$50 per student (normally \$100). For students in grades first through

twelfth, the registration fee is \$100 per student (normally \$400).

"The Early Bird Special is an opportunity for parents to avail of as many discounts that aren't offered throughout the regular school year," said MCS president Dr. Galvin Deleon Guerrero. "With the difficulties the pandemic brings to our community, we highly recommend our families to act quickly in order to secure their child's enrollment."

In addition to the Early Bird Special, MCS will also continue family discounts for families that enroll more than one child. Families with two children can avail of a \$600 discount for the second child, families with three children can avail of a \$1,000 discount for the third child, and families with four children can avail of a \$1,500 discount for the fourth child.

Application forms for the academic and extracurricular scholarships will also be available on the school website on May 1, 2021. Only complete applications will be considered prior to the deadline scheduled for May 31, 2021.

The deadline for the Early Bird registration and fees is scheduled for May 01, 2021. (PR)

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL LICENSING BOARD
 P.O. Box 502078, Bldg., 1242 Pohnpei Court
 Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950
 Tel No: (670) 664-4809 Fax: (670) 664-4814
 Email: cnmi@cnmibpl-hcplb.net
 Website: cnmibpl-hcplb.net

Pursuant to P.L. 8-41, Section 11, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Arnold I. Palacios, through the Health Care Professions Licensing Board (HCPLB) are hereby giving notice that it will hold its regular monthly board meeting on **Wednesday, April 7, 2021 at 8am** on Saipan. The meeting will be held at the Administration Building, Governor's Conference Room on Capitol Hill.

AGENDA

- I. Meeting Call to Order
- II. Determination of Quorum
- III. Review and Adoption of Agenda
- IV. Review and Adoption of Minutes (03/11/2021)
- V. Public Comments
- VI. Chairperson's Report
- VII. Director's Report
 1. Fund Status Report
 2. Practice Monitor Report — April 1, 2021 (M. Bellama)
 3. Upcoming Virtual meetings
- VIII. Investigator's Report
- IX. Communications from the Governor's Office & Legislature
 - A. Governor's Office
 - Memo — Cancellation of Reduction Hours
 - B. Legislature
 - S.B. #22-34 — Medical Assistants
- X. Old Business
 1. Gail Labatete - SCW
 2. Thomas Endicott - Dentist
- XI. New Business
- XII. Pending Applications for Board's Review
 - A. New Application
 - B. Renewal Applications
- XIII. Miscellaneous Business
- XIV. Executive Session: The Board may vote to meet in executive session to consult with Counsel on pending or anticipated legal matters.
- XV. Announcements
 - A. Next Meeting Date
 - B. Adjournment of Meeting

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

NAME OF EMPLOYER: Dental Care, Inc.
 THE POSITION: Dental Therapists
 NUMBER OF OPENINGS: 3

Job Description: Perform all duties required of the position including scheduling of patients; understand and recite in person all the ada dental codes that pertain to general dentistry and show real time capability to perform such tasks; instruct oral health, disease prevention and chart oral cavity; take radiographs and develop films; perform teeth polishing and administer fluoride varnishes to children; assist dentist prepare patients, sterilize or disinfect instruments; set up instrument trays, prepare materials or assist dentist during dental procedures; expose dental diagnostic x-rays; record treatment information in patient records; provide post-operative instructions prescribed by dentist; assist dentist in management of medical or dental emergencies; take and record medical and dental histories and vital signs of patients; instruct patients in oral hygiene and plaque control programs; order and monitor dental supplies and equipment inventory; clean and polish removable appliances; and make preliminary impressions for study casts and occlusal registrations for mounting study casts.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

Education: Must have at least an associate degree in dentistry or related field.

Experience: Must have at least 24 months of relevant work experience as a dental therapist or dental assistant.

Special requirements: Must have a CNMI dental therapist license.

Job site: D' Torres Bldg., Suite 103, Middle Road, Garapan, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

How to apply: Submit or mail resume and/or application letter to:

SCOT L. THOMPSON
 DENTAL CARE, INC.

Office address: D' Torres Bldg., Suite 103
 Middle Road, Garapan, Saipan, Commonwealth
 of the Northern Mariana Islands
Mailing address: P.O. Box 10001, PMB 807,
 Saipan, MP 96950
Email address: dentalcaresaipan@gmail.com
Telephone numbers: (670) 287-7268

Saipan Tribune
 Make it your
DAILY habit.

FOR RENT

- (1) 2-bedroom apartment
- (1) 2-storey apartment

Location: Chinatown

Price range: \$300-\$400

If interested, feel free to call
 989-9916 or 287-2644

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

AUDITOR I

EXAMINATION NO. OPA-21-002

Opening Date: March 19, 2021

Closing Date: April 9, 2021

For more information, please visit our website at www.opacnmi.com or come visit us at our office in Capitol Hill. Interested persons may also pick up a copy of the Examination Announcement at the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) in Garapan.



Office of the Public Auditor
 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
 Website: <http://opacnmi.com>
 Address: 1236 Yap Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950
 Mailing Address: PO Box 501399, Saipan MP 96950
 Email: mail@opacnmi.com
 Phone: (670) 322-6481 Fax: (670) 322-7812

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
 COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
 Tel: (670) 664-2371 | Fax: (670) 664-2408 | Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION TO BID
ITB21-GOV-055

SUPPLY & INSTALLATION OF AN AUTOMATIC TRANSFER SWITCH FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP OFFICE, BUILDING 1326, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN MP
SUBMISSION DATE: 10:30 AM CHST, APRIL 19, 2021

Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Arnold I. Palacios, through the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) are soliciting sealed bids for the **Supply and Installation of an Automatic Transfer Switch for the CNMI Scholarship Office, Building 1326** in Capitol Hill, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI). This project will be funded by the 702 Covenant funding under the U.S. Department of Interior, Office of Insular Affairs.

The project package will be available on **March 19, 2021** at the CIP Program Office, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan, during regular working hours.

A mandatory **Pre-Bid Conference** will be held at the CNMI Scholarship Office, Building 1326 in Capitol Hill, Saipan, CNMI at **10:00 AM ChST April 6, 2021**. Proposers may request to participate via phone call or virtually five (5) days prior to the meeting scheduled. All attendees are required to use a face mask and exercise social distancing throughout the duration of the meeting.

Questions regarding this ITB may be submitted via email to **Ms. Sunny Aldan** at sunnyaldan.cip@gmail.com no later than **4:30 PM ChST April 12, 2021**. All Questions & Answers will be shared with all prospective bidders.

Bidders located outside of the CNMI must fill out and submit the Notice of Intent to Bid Form to the Director of Procurement Services no later than **10:00 AM ChST, April 19, 2021**.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS, AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/s/ **Ralph DLG. Torres**
 Governor, CNMI

/s/ **Francisco C. Aguon, Acting Director**
 CNMI Procurement & Supply

DELTA MANAGEMENT CORPORATION (SAIPAN)

Has an opening for

Accountant

Core Responsibilities:

- Demonstrate and execute accounting controls and principles.
- Maintain accurate general ledger and preparing month-end P&L and financial statements
- Work and collaborate with a small team.
- Complete and manage daily site audits for accuracy.
- Complete bank account reconciliations in a timely manner.
- Prepare timely BGR tax reports.
- Accurately interpret financials and data.
- Manage business using Quick Books accounting program.
- Must learn NAV POS and Backoffice system.
- Adhere to and meet strict reporting deadlines.
- Manage Accounts payable and Accounts receivable
- Reports directly to the owner.

Core Skills:

- Must demonstrate excellent Microsoft Word, Excel and QuickBooks skills.
- Must demonstrate ability to effectively in English communicate verbally and in writing.
- 5 years accounting experience on Saipan.
- Must have a 4-year accounting degree.
- On island references & police clearance required

E-mail Resume and References to islandtrainingsolutions@gmail.com and deltaspn@pticom.com

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

NAME OF EMPLOYER: Gold Ribbon Enterprises, Inc.
 dba Gold Ribbon Bakeshop & Restaurant

THE POSITION: Accountant

JOB DESCRIPTION: Prepare and review monthly budget to actual variances and cash flow sources and uses of funds and ensure compliance with approved budget; Analyze daily recordings of revenue and expenditures for correct account classification in accordance with guidelines, generally accepted principles and regulatory requirements; Review all financial transactions entered in the general and subsidiary ledgers ensuring that all costs (labor, materials, overhead and costs) are completely and accurately recorded in the company's accounting system; Record daily business transactions and prepare billing statements to customers and clients; Prepares costing of products; Review and summarize business reports; Make financial recommendation to management; Responsible for budget control; Monitor and facilitate various payments to suppliers, vendors and process payments; Review and analyze monthly operating report on activities and resources in support of compiled daily revenues and expenditures, aging reports for receivables and payables and profit and loss accounts; Review and summarize business reports and all documents; Based on results of analytics review, investigates causes of variances and prepare report for management information; Prepare periodic tax filing (monthly gross receipt tax, corporate income tax return, FICA and EWR Quarterly Reports); Compute and prepare bi-weekly or semi-monthly payrolls for employees; Interact management decisions, particularly involving financial decisions to improve business operations; Monitor on a regular basis the status of inventory stocks on hand, and coordinate with chef and purchasing officer regarding propriety of actual charges; Implement strict adherence to established internal control systems and procedures; Prepare yearly financial statements (Balance Sheets and Income Statements).

MINIMUM QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

EDUCATION: With a bachelor's degree in Accounting

EXPERIENCE: With at least 60 months of relevant work experience as an Accountant.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: Must have knowledge and experience in accounting soft wares; Must be computer-literate; and Must possess excellent written and verbal communication skills.

Job Site: 1st Floor, Interkam Building, Beach Road, Chalan Piao, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

How to Apply: Submit or mail resume and/or application letter to:

ROXANNE D. ARANDA-ADA, Corporate Secretary
GOLD RIBBON ENTERPRISES, INC. dba Gold Ribbon Bakeshop & Restaurant
Office Address: 1st Floor, Interkam Building, Beach Road, Chalan Piao
 Saipan Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 505623, Saipan, MP 96950
Email Address: goldribbonbakeshop@gmail.com
Telephone Numbers: Tel. (670) 235-4658; (670) 287-1769

Business



MARK RABAGO
BAB Korean Restaurant's private rooms will be available to customers free of charge in their \$18.99 buffet promotion.

Now you can eat Korean food until you belt out songs like a K-Pop star, with BAB Korean Restaurant offering buffet dining in time for Easter Sunday.

Dante Conlu, who handles marketing and promotions for the Garapan restaurant, said their buffet offering will include all Korean food that we're fond of like unlimited japchae, kimchi, Korean pork and chicken barbecue, and shabu-shabu, to name a few.

For the barbecue, they will be serving marinated pork and chicken barbecue and bulgogi pork, aside from the regular pork and chicken barbecue fare.

As with the style of many Korean barbecue joints, customers will be grilling their

meats as well as cooking their shabu-shabu at their tables.

As an added bonus, Conlu said three of their private rooms will be available to customers free of charge in this buffet promotion. The private rooms—one that can accommodate as many as 12 people and two as many as six each—should be reserved in advance.

BAB Korean Restaurant's buffet costs \$18.99 for adults and \$11.99 for children 5-11 years old. The buffet is available from 5pm to 9pm everyday.

Aside from their new buffet offering, the Korean restaurant also recently introduced Shrimp BAB to its ever-expanding Cup BAB menu.

\$18.99 Korean buffet at BAB



MARK RABAGO
BAB Korean Restaurant's buffet costs \$18.99 for adults and \$11.99 for children 5-11 years old. The buffet is available from 5pm to 9pm everyday.

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR



MARK RABAGO
BAB Korean Restaurant's Shrimp Bab.

At only \$9, it includes four breaded jumbo shrimp cooked sweet-and-sour style on a bed of white rice and japchae. It also comes in chaser size with seven jumbo shrimps instead of four and is priced at \$13.

Conlu said they introduced Shrimp BAB in time for the

Lenten season but the item has proved so popular that they have decided to make it a regular of the Cup BAB menu.

BAB Korean Restaurant is located at the old Caesar's

Sauna building along Middle Road in Garapan. It strictly follows the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force guidelines and can sit as many as 45 customers. It's open

Monday-Sunday from 11am to 9pm. For reservations and for more information, call 233-4222 or contact them on their Facebook page: BAB Korean Restaurant.

Biden announces huge infrastructure plan to 'win the future'

PITTSBURGH (AP) — President Joe Biden outlined a huge \$2.3 trillion plan Wednesday to reengineer the nation's infrastructure in what he billed as "a once-in-a-generation investment in America" that would undo his predecessor's signature legislative achievement—giant tax cuts for corporations—in the process.

Speaking at a carpenters union training center in Pittsburgh, Biden drew comparisons between his hard-hatted proposed transformation of the U.S. economy and the space race—and promised results as grand in scale as the New Deal or Great Society programs that shaped the 20th century.

"It's not a plan that tinkers around the edges," Biden said. "It's a once-in-a-generation investment in America unlike anything we've seen or done since we built the interstate highway system and the space race decades ago. In fact, it's the largest American jobs investment since World War II.

It will create millions of jobs, good-paying jobs."

White House officials say the spending would generate those jobs as the country shifts away from fossil fuels and combats the perils of climate change. It is also an effort to compete with the technology and public investments made by China, which has the world's second-largest economy and is fast gaining on the United States' dominant position.

"I'm convinced that if we act now, in 50 years people are going to look back and say this is the moment when America won the future," Biden said.

The Democratic president's infrastructure projects would be financed by higher corporate taxes—a trade-off that could lead to fierce resistance from the business community and thwart attempts to work with Republican lawmakers. Biden hopes to pass an infrastructure plan by summer, which could mean relying solely on the slim Democratic majorities in the House and

the Senate.

The higher corporate taxes would aim to raise the necessary piles of money over 15 years and then reduce the deficit going forward. In doing so, Biden would undo the 2017 tax overhaul by President Donald Trump and congressional Republicans and lift the corporate tax rate to 28% from the 21% rate.

"Ninety-one Fortune 500 Companies, including Amazon, pay not a single solitary penny in income tax," Biden said.

Wednesday's announcement will be followed in coming weeks by Biden pushing a companion bill of roughly equal size for investments in child care, family tax credits and other domestic programs. That nearly \$2 trillion package would be paid for by tax hikes on wealthy individuals and families.

"Wall Street didn't build this country," Biden said. "You, the great middle class, built this country. And unions built the middle class."

Bank of Japan survey more optimism over economic recovery

TOKYO (AP)—Business sentiment is growing optimistic, a closely watched economic survey by the Bank of Japan showed Thursday, as the world's third-largest economy continues to grapple with the damage from the coronavirus pandemic.

The "tankan" survey's headline index for big manufacturers' sentiment stood at plus 5 in March, a considerable improvement over the minus 10 marked in December, and more positive than the forecast at plus 4.

The survey's results highlight a steady recovery over the last three quarters to levels before COVID-19 began in late 2019.

The tankan measures corporate sentiment by subtracting the number of companies saying business conditions are negative from those responding they are positive.

Sentiment among large nonmanufacturers improved by four points to minus 1, underlying how that sector is bouncing back far slower than big manufacturers.

Naoya Oshikubo, senior economist at SuMi TRUST, or Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Asset Management, believes the recovery is slower in the service sector because of the government-backed "state of emergency" issued periodically, with the latest ending in March.

Export-led recovery is strong, while the food, travel and accommodation sectors are stalling, but the overall impact will be gentler than last years' because the emergency only applied to some parts of Japan, Oshikubo said in his report this week.

"And, in general, people have become accustomed to COVID-19 measures,"

he said.

The coronavirus sent sentiments at Japan Inc. plunging last year to levels last seen when the economy was battered by the financial crisis more than a decade ago.

Although trade and some economic activity have been recovering, income from tourism, a major driver for growth in recent years, is still squelched because of border controls.

Some 9,100 people have died from COVID-19 in Japan. The vaccine rollout has barely begun, with fewer than 1% of the population inoculated.

With cases rising recently in a "fourth wave," worries are growing about the Tokyo Olympics, set to open in July, with tens of thousands of people, including athletes, business and government officials and media, entering the country from abroad.

STOCK
PORTFOLIO

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW
32,981.55
0.26%
-85.41

S&P
3,972.89
0.36%
+14.34

NASDAQ
13,246.87
1.54%
+201.48

EXCHANGE RATES

Hong Kong Dollar	7.7743	Russian Ruble	74.9230
Australian Dollar	1.3269	Singapore Dollar	1.3474
British Pound	0.7269	Japanese Yen	110.7520
Canadian Dollar	1.2599	Malaysian Ringgit	4.1140
Chinese Yuan	6.4772	New Zealand Dollar	1.4392
Euro	0.8533	Philippine Peso	47.6984
		Taiwan Dollar	28.1649
		Thailand Baht	31.3140

Nation

Ex-cop told onlooker Floyd was big, 'probably on something'

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—After the ambulance took George Floyd away, the Minneapolis officer who had pinned his knee on the Black man's neck defended himself to a bystander by saying Floyd was "a sizable guy" and "probably on something," according to police video played in court Wednesday.

The video was part of a mountain of footage — both official and amateur—and witness testimony at Officer Derek Chauvin's murder trial that all together showed how Floyd's alleged attempt to pass a phony \$20 bill at a neighborhood market last May escalated into

tragedy one video-documented step at a time.

A security-camera scene of people joking around inside the store soon gave way to the sight of officers pulling Floyd from his SUV at gunpoint, struggling to push him into a squad car as he writhed and screamed that he was claustrophobic, and then putting him on the pavement.

When Floyd was finally taken away by paramedics, Charles McMillian, a 61-year-old bystander who recognized Chauvin from the neighborhood, told the officer he didn't respect what Chauvin had done.

"That's one person's opin-

ion," Chauvin could be heard responding. "We gotta control this guy 'cause he's a sizable guy ... and it looks like he's probably on something."

Floyd was 6-foot-4 and 223 pounds, according to the autopsy, which also found fentanyl and methamphetamine in his system. Chauvin's lawyer said the officer is 5-foot-9 and 140 pounds.

Chauvin, 45, is charged with murder and manslaughter, accused of killing the 46-year-old Floyd by kneeling on his neck for 9 minutes, 29 seconds, as he lay face-down in handcuffs. The most serious charge against the now-fired

white officer carries up to 40 years in prison.

Floyd's death, along with the harrowing bystander video of him gasping for breath as onlookers yelled at Chauvin to get off him, triggered sometimes violent protests around the world and a reckoning over racism and police brutality across the U.S.

Jurors were shown police body camera video of the approximately 20 minutes between when police approached Floyd's vehicle and when he was loaded into the ambulance.

When Officer Thomas Lane

confronted Floyd in his SUV, drew his gun and demanded with a few expletives that he show his hands, a panicky-sounding Floyd said: "I'm sorry, I'm sorry" and "I got shot before." Seemingly crying, he begged repeatedly, "Please don't shoot me, man."

Then, when told to get into the squad car, Floyd repeatedly yelled, "I'm not that kind a guy!" and "I'm claustrophobic!" As officers shoved his upper body and then his legs into the car, he writhed and screamed, "Please! Please! ... I can't breathe!"

Officers were clearly exas-

perated as Floyd braced himself against the squad car and arched his body while they tried to get him inside. At one point, he threw his upper body out of the car, and officers tried to push him back in.

Officers eventually pulled him out and brought him to the ground. Floyd thanked officers as they took him out of the squad car.

Once Floyd was on the ground—with Chauvin's knee on his neck, another officer's knee on his back and a third man holding his legs—the officers talked calmly about whether he might be on drugs.

Reversing Trump, Pentagon releases new transgender policies

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Pentagon on Wednesday swept away Trump-era policies that largely banned transgender people from serving in the military, issuing new rules that offer them wider access to medical care and assistance with gender transition.

The new department regulations allow transgender people who meet military standards to enlist and serve openly in their self-identified gender, and they will be able to get medically necessary transition-related care authorized by law, chief Pentagon spokesman John Kirby told reporters during a briefing.

The changes come after a two-month Pentagon review aimed at developing guidelines for the new policy, which was announced by President Joe Biden just days after he took office in January.

Biden's executive order overturned the Trump policy

and immediately prohibited any service member from being forced out of the military on the basis of gender identity. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin then gave the Pentagon two months to finalize the more detailed regulations that the military services will follow.

The new rules also prohibit discrimination based on gender identity. Their release Wednesday coincides with International Transgender Day of Visibility, and they will take effect in 30 days. Kirby said that will give the military services the time they need to update their policies and provide guidance to commanders.

"The United States military is the greatest fighting force on the planet because we are composed of an all-volunteer team willing to step up and defend the rights and freedoms of all Americans," Austin said in a statement Wednesday.

"We will remain the best and most capable team because we avail ourselves of the best possible talent that America has to offer, regardless of gender identity."

Austin has also called for a reexamination of the records of service members who were discharged or denied reenlistment because of gender identity issues under the previous policy. Stephanie Miller, the director of military accession policy, told reporters there is no data yet on how many people that may be.

Until a few years ago, service members could be discharged from the military for being transgender, but that changed during the Obama administration. In 2016, the Pentagon announced that transgender people already serving in the military would be allowed to serve openly, and that by July 2017 they would be allowed to enlist.

Suspect in attack on Asian American woman in NYC is arrested

NEW YORK (AP)—A parolee convicted of killing his mother nearly two decades ago was arrested on assault and hate crime charges in an attack on an Asian American woman in New York City, police said Wednesday.

Police said Brandon Elliot, 38, is the man seen on surveillance video kicking and stomping the woman near Times Square on Monday. The woman was attacked in front of an apartment building.

Two lobby workers witnessed the violence but no one intervened or called 911, police said. Their union said Wednesday they told a union representative that they waited until the attacker left because he had a knife and then flagged down a police car.

Elliot, who is Black, faces charges of assault and attempted assault as hate crimes. He

made an appearance in court via video Wednesday night, and was remanded into custody, with the next court date scheduled for Monday.

Manhattan District Attorney Cyrus Vance Jr. said Elliot faces up to 25 years in prison if convicted.

The Legal Aid Society, which is representing him, said in a statement, "We strongly urge the public to reserve judgment until all the facts are presented in court."

Elliot lived at a hotel that serves as a homeless shelter a few blocks from the attack scene, police said. He was taken into custody at the hotel around midnight. Tips from the public led to his apprehension, police said.

Elliot was convicted of stabbing his mother to death in the Bronx in 2002, when he was 19. He was released from pris-

on in 2019 and is on lifetime parole. The parole board had previously twice denied his release. His record also included an arrest for robbery in 2000.


"For the life of me, I don't understand why we are releasing or pushing people out of prison—not to give them second chances, but to put them into homeless facilities or shelters, or in this case a hotel—and expect good outcomes," Police Commissioner Dermot Shea said at a news conference Wednesday. "We need real opportunities. We need real safety nets."

A law enforcement official identified the victim as 65-year-old Vilma Kari. The official was not authorized to speak publicly and did so on condition of anonymity. Kari's daughter told The New York Times that she emigrated from the Philippines several decades ago.

IN CELEBRATION OF HER NEW LIFE

† Maria Camacho Castro

MARCH 26, 1953 – MARCH 23, 2021



In Her New Life, She now joins Her:
Husband: †Ricardo Camacho Castro
Parents: †Joaquin Rios Camacho and †Grabela Borja Camacho
Sister: †Ana Borja Camacho
Parents-in-law: †Nicolas Torres Sablan and †Josepha Castro Sablan

Her Memories will Forever live in the hearts of Her:
Children:
 Richard C. Castro & Elizabeth V. Castro (Marylynn Marie, Lolaine Marie & Taylor John, Wilson Laurence, Fatima Louise, Richard Ric, Aubrey Ricci, Audrey Lizbeth)
 Patrick C. Castro & Clarinda Aldan (Ashley & Jaymark [Rileyanne Havanna, Aiden James, Allison Jade], Patrick Harley, Charlotte & Billy [Hailey Dawn, Kylie Rose], Kristine Amadeaya, Patrick John)
 Elaine C. Matagolai & Roy D. Matagolai (Cain Ricardo & Yuriko [Sasuke Zeke, Musashi Zion, Komachi Zyla Margarita], Kailene & Keoni [Avery Roy Lysander], Roy Allen Jr., Dakota Gabrielle)
 Gabriel C. Castro & Amri Castro (Stephan, Migel, Aubrey, Aubyguel, Albert)
 Jolene C. Castro & Robert C. Torres (Keona Kaylee & Chantilly, Ricardo Jay & Sophia, Kristan Rose, Avah Marie, Marley Rosa, Anthony Joseph, Gabriel Elias, Kilianna Mae & Khoen Alexander)
 Maria Josepha C. Castro

Siblings:
 Delfina C. & Joaquin M. Manglona & Family
 Agueda B. Camacho & Family
 Rosa C. & Francisco I. Aquino & Family
 Joaquin B. Camacho & Family

In-laws:
 Maria C. & †Jose Sablan & Family
 Herman C. & Rita Santos & Family
 David C. & Remedio Sablan & Family
 Margarita C. Sablan & Family
 Nicolas C. & Lucy Sablan & Family
 †Edward Sablan
 George C. & Bernadita Sablan & Family
 Rudy C. & Elphidia Sablan & Family
 †Remedio Sablan
 Vicente C. & Lynn Sablan & Family
 Ramon C. & Victoria Sablan & Family

She will be greatly missed by numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, relatives and friends.

Mass at San Jose Church, Sunday April 4, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.; Monday April 5, 2021 – Thursday April 8, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Funeral Services will be held on Friday, April 9, 2021 at Mt. Carmel Cathedral. Responso at 9:00 a.m. followed by Public Viewing and Mass at 11:00 a.m. Burial will take place at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery where she will be at peaceful rest.

Thank you and Si Yu'us Ma'ase

Children & Family

World

WORLD BRIEFS

PH demands China remove vessels at 6 islands, reefs

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippine government said Wednesday that more than 250 Chinese vessels it believes are operated by militia have been spotted near six Manila-claimed islands and reefs in the disputed South China Sea and demanded that China immediately remove them. The gathering of the Chinese-flagged vessels, along with four Chinese navy ships at a Chinese-occupied manmade island base, “is hazardous to navigation and safety of life at sea” and may damage coral reefs and threaten the Philippines’ sovereign rights, a government body overseeing the disputed waters said. China has ignored a Philippine government diplomatic protest and a call more than a week ago by Philippine Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana for about 200 Chinese vessels to leave Whitsun Reef, stating that the maritime territory belongs to it and the Chinese vessels were sheltering from rough seas. After carrying out aerial and maritime patrol missions, Philippine officials said 44 Chinese “maritime militia” vessels were still moored Monday at Whitsun Reef, which Manila calls Julian Felipe. More than 200 other vessels from the Chinese flotilla have apparently dispersed to five other areas in the Spratly group of islands, including three Chinese-occupied artificial islands, they said. At least four Chinese navy ships were at Chinese-occupied Mischief Reef, the Philippine officials said. China took control of the reef in 1995, drawing strong protests from the Philippines and other claimant states.

Junta's foes woo ethnic allies with new Myanmar constitution

YANGON, Myanmar (AP)—Opponents of Myanmar’s military government declared the country’s 2008 constitution void and put forward an interim replacement charter late Wednesday in a major political challenge to the ruling junta. The moves, while more symbolic than practical, could help woo the country’s armed ethnic militias to ally themselves with the mass protest movement against the military’s seizure of power in February. The actions were taken by the CRPH, an underground, self-styled alternative government established by elected lawmakers who were not allowed to take their seats when the military staged the coup and ousted and detained civilian leader Aung San Suu Kyi. The Committee Rep-

resenting Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the national Parliament, made the announcements on social media. The 2008 constitution, implemented under army rule, ensured the military maintained its dominance during the country’s decade of progress toward democracy, such as by reserving it a quarter of the seats in Parliament and retaining responsibility for state security. The junta that seized power from the civilian government Feb. 1 cites emergency provisions in the charter as giving its takeover constitutional legitimacy.

Experts examine bottom of big ship that was stuck in Suez

CAIRO (AP)—Divers inspected the underside of a colossal container ship that had blocked the Suez Canal, spotting some damage to the bow but not enough to take it out of service, officials said Wednesday. The dives were part of a continuing investigation into what caused the Ever Given to crash into the bank of the canal where it remained wedged for six days, blocking a crucial artery of global shipping, before it was dislodged on Monday. The vessel is now anchored in the Great Bitter Lake, a wide stretch of water halfway between the north and south ends of the canal. The blockage had halted billions of dollars a day in maritime commerce. Two senior canal officials said the vessel’s bulbous bow had suffered slight to medium damage. They spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to reporters. One of the officials, a canal pilot, said experts were studying the extent of the damage, but he said it is unlikely it would impede navigation. He said the ship’s next movements would depend on “several legal and procedural” measures that the canal authority would discuss with Ever Given’s operator.

7 HK democracy leaders convicted over 2019 protests

HONG KONG (AP)—Seven Hong Kong pro-democracy advocates were convicted Thursday on charges of organizing and participating in an unlawful assembly during massive anti-government protests in 2019 that triggered a crackdown on dissent. The seven include media tycoon and founder of the Apple Daily tabloid Jimmy Lai, as well as 82-year-old Martin Lee, a veteran of the city’s democracy movement. Lai had already been held without bail on other charges related to his pro-democracy activities. They were


convicted for their involvement in a protest held on Aug. 18, 2019. Organizers said that 1.7 million people marched that day in opposition to a proposed bill that would have allowed suspects to be extradited to mainland China for trial. The activists, apart from those who have been remanded in custody on other charges, were granted bail on condition they do not leave Hong Kong and must hand in all their travel documents.

As tensions ease, Pakistan allows partial trade with India

ISLAMABAD (AP)—Pakistan on Wednesday lifted a two-year ban on the import of sugar and cotton from nuclear-rival neighboring India, a major move aimed at reviving trade ties with New Delhi amid easing tensions, Pakistan’s finance minister said. The decision to partially resume trade ties by allowing the import of cotton and 0.5 tons of sugar

from India was taken at a meeting of the economic coordination council, Pakistan’s top decision-making body on commerce, said Hammad Azhar, the minister. Azhar told reporters at a news conference that Pakistan may allow the import of more Indian items in the future, according to the country’s needs. India is believed to be one of the biggest producers of sugar and cotton in the region. The minister added that sugar imports from India would help

to reduce the soaring prices of sugar in the country. Sugar produced in India is about 20% cheaper, compared to sugar produced in Pakistan, he said. The announcement comes days after Pakistan and India exchanged peace overtures, saying they wanted peaceful ties with each other. Pakistan suspended trade with India in 2019 after New Delhi stripped the Indian-controlled section of Kashmir of its statehood and special constitutional status.



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

† Margarita Celis Cabrera Torres

Born September 7, 1946
Called to her Eternal Life on March 25, 2021

In her Eternal life, she now joins:

Husband: †Pedro Wesley Torres
Father: †Leonardo Camacho Cabrera
Mother: †Ignacia Celis Cabrera
Father In-Law: †Jesus Arriola Torres
Mother In-Law: †Francisca Wesley Torres
Sibling: †Jose Celis Cabrera
 †Juan Celis Cabrera
 †Remedio Celis Cabrera Diaz
 †Diana Celis Cabrera Torres

Reared Brother: †Jesus Antonio Teregeyo "Namba"
Brother In-Laws: †Glenn D. Butteris, †Calisto S. Cepeda
 †Jose W. Torres, †Juan W. Torres
 †Joseph W. Torres, †Malcolm C. Weidner

Her memory lives in the hearts of:

Children

- ✦ Margaret Bertha Torres/Frederick Pangelinan (Tawny Lourdes/Greg Jin, Jerome Jesse/Diosalyn & family, Blair Judy/Ken & family, Sharon Joanna, Nicole Pangelinan, Britney Pangelinan, Mya Pangelinan)
- ✦ Jacqueline Joan/Joseph Camacho (Kaisha Camille, Joseph Jr. & Family, Pedriane Margaret)
- ✦ Peter Wesley Jr./Trina Lynn Torres (Jaylynn Chelsea/Ryan & family, Keona)
- ✦ Jesse Leonard/Gina Lynn Torres (Peter Wesley III, Joseph Lang)
- ✦ Risha Joyce/Joseph Lifofoi (Joseph Jr., Vincent Peter)

Sisters, Brothers, In-laws & Family

- ✦ †Calisto S. & Eugenia C. Cepeda (†Delia & family, Leonora/Filimon Camacho & family, †Elsie Fejeran & family, †Leonard John, Jordonna/Bruce Sonthixay & family, Raymond Cepeda/Zania Fleming & family)
- ✦ †Glenn D. & Victorina C. Butteris (Darrin/Doris Guerrero & family)
- ✦ †Remedio C. & Vicente P. Diaz (Vicente "Cotch", Adrian, Thomas/Chelsey & family, Kekoa & family)
- ✦ Francisco W. & †Diana C. Torres (Pamela Torres & family, Jeffrey/Nu'uipeau Torres & family, Kolani Torres & family, Francisco Torres Jr./Jermaine Cabrera & family)
- ✦ †Juan C. Cabrera (Rodney & family, Rowena & family, Lora Jean & family, Juan/Jadine & family, Ignatia Cabrera/Frank Hocog & family)
- ✦ Dolores C. & Juan Camacho (Liela/Don Yumul & family, Peter & family, Nasia/Craig Sanchez & family, Juan Jr. & family)
- ✦ Bernadita C. & Mark Palacios (Velma Palacios/Eric Benavente & family, Marvin/Lani Tarope & family, Franklin, Mark)
- ✦ Pedro C. & Emerina Cabrera (Peonie/Gary Mills & family, Pennie & family, Carla Laguisma & family)

Sisters & Brothers In-Laws & Family

- ✦ Magdalena W. Torres & Martin C. Tenorio (Peter Paul Maloney, Michelle/Carlos Sablan & family, Tim Maloney & family)
- ✦ Teresita T. & James Applebaum (Renee/DJ Herrmann & family, Rachel)
- ✦ Mathilde & Lawrence Gozrulak (Jessica/James Serrano & family, Jennifer/Alex Romano & family, Joseph L/Savanah Washington)
- ✦ Margarita T. & Dr. Vicente S. Aldan (Dr. Thomas/Dr. Gloria & family, Vincent/Nika & family, Pomaika'i Aldan/Rachel Reyes & family)
- ✦ Maria T. & Norman Peters (Tabitha Lynn/Devin Raleigh & family, Jason Peters)
- ✦ †Malcolm C. & Rita T. Weidner (Frances Weidner/Lamont Henderson & Family, Catherine Weidner/Isaac Ngirbabual & family, Kyle Weidner/Jami Starling & family)
- ✦ Jesus W. Torres (Jamie & family, Jenel, Nicole, Vlad)
- ✦ †Juan W. & Barbara Ada Torres (Frances & family, Eric, Audrey Jo Ada)
- ✦ †Joseph W. & Rosita C. Torres (Joseph C. Torres/Kristina Springer & family, Robert C. Torres/Jolene Castro & family, Norman)
- ✦ Roman W. Torres & Bridgit Imaizumi (Audry Torres & family, Ryen Torres, Ashley Torres/Anthony Malwelbug & family, Fermin Torres, Dionne Torres)

Our beloved Margarita is survived by numerous godchildren, aunts, uncles, nieces & nephews.
 Daily Mass of intention for the repose of her soul is being celebrated at Kristo Rai Church at 6:00 am.

Un dangkulu na Si Yu'us Ma'ase ginen as Bertha, Jackie, Peter, Jesse, Risha yan I Familia

Off The Wall

Woman who lost child to brain tumor gives birth at age 57

CONCORD, N.H. (AP)—A New Hampshire woman who lost her 13-year-old daughter to a brain tumor in 2016 has now given birth to a son—at age 57.

Barbara Higgins also had a brain tumor of her own while trying to get pregnant and had it removed.

Higgins and her husband, Kenny Banzhoff, of Concord, have been grieving for their late daughter Molly.

In recent years, the couple, who also have an older daughter, thought about having another child. They found an in vitro fertilization clinic in Boston that worked with them.

Higgins gave birth to a healthy boy named Jack on Saturday. He weighed 5 pounds, 13 ounces.

“Yes, I’m scared and I’m anxious, but I’m so excited,” Higgins told the Concord Monitor for a story published Friday.

Higgins, an avid runner who has been a high school track coach, said she did weight training until the day she went into labor. In addition to Higgins’ struggles with her brain tumor, Banzhoff, 65, had been

living with kidney disease and underwent a transplant.

According to Guinness World Records, the old-

Man receives final paycheck in coins

ATLANTA (AP)—A Georgia man said his former employer owed him a pretty penny, \$915 to be exact, after leaving his job in November.

But Andreas Flaten said he was shocked to see his final payment: 90,000 oil or grease covered pennies, at the end of his driveway earlier this month, news outlets reported. Atop the pile was an envelope with Flaten’s final paystub and an explicit parting message.

“This is a childish thing to do,” Flaten said.

Flaten said he left his job at Peachtree City’s A OK Walker Autoworks in November. He said he was owed the final check and had difficulty getting it, even turning to the Georgia Department of Labor to receive help.

In mid-March, Flaten said as he left his house with his girlfriend he noticed the pile at the end of his driveway. He said the pennies were cov-

ered with some sort of oily substance. Now his nightly routine consists of cleaning the pennies so he can cash them in. He said it took him about an hour and a half to clean off several hundred.

“I think that’s going to be a lot of work for money I’ve already worked for,” he said. “It’s definitely not fair at all.” The owner of the shop, Miles Walker, spoke with WGCL-TV briefly, stating he didn’t know if he did or didn’t drop the pennies off at Flaten’s house.

“I don’t really remember,” Walker told the TV station. “It doesn’t matter he got paid, that’s all that matters.” Walker went on to call Flaten a “weenie.”

Flaten’s girlfriend, Olivia Oxley, said she hopes her boyfriend’s story sheds light on how people “are treated so poorly by their employers.”

Science & Technology

US, China consulted on safety as their crafts headed to Mars

BEIJING (AP)—As their respective spacecrafts headed to Mars, China and the U.S. held consultations earlier this year in a somewhat unusual series of exchanges between the rivals.

China’s National Space Agency confirmed Wednesday that it had working-level meetings and communications with NASA from January to March “to ensure the flight safety” of their crafts.

U.S. law bans almost all contacts between NASA and China over concerns about technology theft and the secretive, military-backed nature of China’s space program.

However, exceptions can be made when NASA can certify to Congress that it



A visitor to an exhibition looks at a display with a replica of the Chinese Mars Rover of the Tianwen-1 spacecraft in Beijing on March 12, 2021. AP

has protections in place to safeguard information, acting NASA Administrator Steve Jurczyk said during a video meeting last week.

Jurczyk said the most recent

exchange was about China providing orbital and other data for its Mars mission so they could analyze the risk of collision. “We do have targeted engagement with them,” he said.

If tax data disappears, ‘flatten’ the PDF file

Q : I’ve been using the free Adobe Acrobat Reader DC to fill-in and save PDF tax forms on my PC. But when I recently called up a stored tax form, the data I’d filled-in appeared for a moment, then disappeared, leaving just a blank tax form.

I then called up other tax forms that I’d saved earlier, and found that they still had their data. I then tried using another PC, and found that some stored tax forms contained the data I’d entered, while others had gone blank. Adobe won’t help me with this problem because I’m using a free app. What’s wrong and what can I do?

A: The disappearing tax data problem is caused by the way Adobe PDF files are stored.

When you look at a PDF file on your PC screen, it appears as one page after another as you scroll down.

But when a PDF file is stored, its contents are kept in layers of data so that the file will take up less space on a hard drive or other data storage device.

Occasionally this data layering has an unintended visual effect: When a PDF form is filled out, stored and then opened again, the information that was entered seems to have disappeared — even though it’s still present.

The workaround for this problem is to “flatten” the PDF file, so that it stores all of its data in one layer in-

TECH Q&A

By STEVE ALEXANDER
Star Tribune



Steve Alexander covers technology for the Star Tribune of Minneapolis. Readers may write to him at Tech Q&A, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488-0002; email: steve.j.alexander@gmail.com. Please include a full name, city and phone number.

stead of stacking one piece of information on top of another.

Once the layers are gone, you’ll be able to see all the tax information you entered every time the PDF file is opened.

However, this workaround comes with a limitation: Once you’ve flattened a PDF file, you won’t be able to add any more data to it, or to convert it back into a regular PDF file. So, make sure your tax form is complete and accurate before you make the change.

Here are two ways to turn your completed tax form from a normal PDF file into a flattened one:

■ In the PDF file, press the CTRL and P keys simultaneously. You’ll then see a box with choices for how to print the file; choose either Adobe PDF or Microsoft PDF as your “printer.” In most cases, this will flatten the PDF file.

■ In the PDF file, use the “save as” command to save the tax form as an Adobe PostScript file (which has the suffix “.ps”).

Then use one of several free websites (see tinyurl.com/y9wkh94 or tinyurl.com/dtb4sneb or tinyurl.com/48s65r7w) to convert

the PostScript file into a flattened PDF file.

Q: I’m lefthanded. How can I change Windows 10 so that the vertical scroll bar in programs is on the left side of the screen instead of the right side?

A: Microsoft doesn’t allow you to move the scroll bar in Windows or in most of its programs. This lack of accommodation for lefthanders seems odd, since they make up 10% of the population. (The exception is Microsoft’s note-taking program, called OneNote. To move its scroll bar from the right side of the screen to the left, see tinyurl.com/249m6wyd).

But some web browsers allow you to move the vertical scroll bar function (although not the scroll bar itself.) The free “ScrollAnywhere” extension for the Google Chrome (see tinyurl.com/3hr7hkke) or Mozilla Firefox (see tinyurl.com/ythmwee9) browsers lets you scroll from any point on a web page by holding down a mouse button. (To select which mouse button to use, click the program icon at the top right of the browser, then choose “options.”)

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

3 students cited in theft of rare tree in Wisconsin

MADISON, Wis. (AP)—Police who were stumped by the theft of a rare pine tree in November from the University of Wisconsin Arboretum said Friday that they have cracked the case. UW-Madison police said three 19-year-old university students stole the tree as part of a “pledge” activity for the former Chi Phi fraternity, which hasn’t been recognized as an official student organization since 2015. Police said they acted on a tip, and that the three admitted to purchasing a chainsaw, renting a U-Haul and stealing the 25-foot Algonquin Pillar Swiss Mountain pine. The stolen tree was about 30 yards (30 meters) from a street that runs through the arboretum, which is a popular spot for walkers, joggers, bicyclists and nature lovers. The tree was planted in 1988.

Alaska man gets pistol from his car to stop robbery attempt

FAIRBANKS, Alaska (AP)—A Fairbanks man stopped an attempted robbery at a gas station by pointing his gun at the suspect and holding him until law enforcement arrived. Nick Moore said he was standing in line Friday at a Holiday store with his breakfast and energy drink when a teen walked in with a knife. “I kind of backed up a little bit to see what he was going to do, but I kind of already had an inkling in my mind of what was going to happen,” Moore told Fairbanks television station KTVF. His suspicion turned out to be correct; the teen told employees he was robbing the store. “I put my stuff on the counter, snuck out the door, ran to my car, grabbed my pistol and came back up to the door,” Moore said. “He just turned to look at me. I racked my slide on my pistol and pointed it at him and he put his hands up.” Moore had the teen put down the knife and lay face-down on the floor until Alaska State Troopers arrived.

Kentucky town rallies to restore beheaded Mother Goose

HAZARD, Ky. (AP)—A community in Kentucky is rallying to help restore an 80-year-old landmark—an oval shaped building that has a domed roof with the neck and head of a goose sticking out the front. Until last week, that is, when the goose was beheaded by strong winds. The owners had put up a Go Fund Me page on March 20, saying the head had moved off its foundation and couldn’t be stabilized. They were raising funds to reconstruct it. Then on Wednesday, they posted an update. The head had fallen. The building has served as a home, a service station, a market and an inn over the years, WYMT-TV reported. Now community support in Hazard is pouring in. As of Saturday afternoon, the Go Fund Me page had raised more than \$7,000. The Kentucky Heritage Council in Frankfort has also pledged to help out.

Some Alaska Costco shoppers say ravens steal their groceries

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP)—Some Alaska Costco shoppers said they’ve had their groceries stolen by ravens in the store parking lot. Matt Lewallen said he was packing his groceries into his car in the parking lot of an Anchorage Costco when ravens swooped in to steal a short rib from his cart, the Anchorage Daily News reported Friday. “I literally took 10 steps away and turned around, two ravens came down and instantly grabbed one out of the package, ripped it off and flew off with it,” Lewallen said. Lewallen said the piece of meat was about 4-by-7 inches (10-by-18 centimeters) large—a sizable meal for a sizable bird. “They know what they’re doing; it’s not their first time,” Lewallen said. “They’re very fat so I think they’ve got a whole system there.” And once he got back home, he noticed that one of the ravens had taken a poke at another rib but did not rob it.

Life & Style

Paul Simon sells song catalog to Sony Music Publishing

NEW YORK (AP)—Paul Simon is the latest icon to sell his rich catalog of songs.

Sony Music Publishing announced Wednesday that it has acquired Simon's catalog, which includes six decades of music, from his time in Simon & Garfunkel to his solo career. Financial details of the deal were not announced.

Bob Dylan and Shakira recently sold their full catalogs, while Stevie Nicks sold a majority of her catalog and Neil Young sold 50% of his.

Simon has won 16 Gram-

my Awards. His well-known songs include "Bridge Over Troubled Water," "The Boxer," "The Sound of Silence," "Mrs. Robinson," "Homeward Bound," "I am a Rock" and "50 Ways to Leave Your Lover," among others.

"I'm pleased to have Sony Music Publishing be the custodian of my songs for the coming decades. I began my career at Columbia/Sony Records and it feels like a natural extension to be working with the Publishing side as well," 79-year-old Simon said in a statement.

Chrissy Teigen graces cover of People's 'Beautiful Issue'

LOS ANGELES

(AP)—Chrissy Teigen will grace the front of People magazine's "The Beautiful Issue" in a cover story that delves into her evolved definition of beauty, facing racism growing up and her heartbreaking miscarriage last year.

The magazine revealed the cover Wednesday of the annual issue, which hits newsstands Friday.

On this year's cover, Teigen appears smiling along with her children Luna, 4, and Miles, 2, with the quote "I've learned how strong I am." The 35-year-old model and cookbook author is married to R&B crooner John Legend, who was named Sexiest Man Alive by the magazine in 2019.

Teigen, who is of Thai-Norwegian descent, said she wants to follow her Thai tradi-

tion in remembering her son, Jack, who died at 20 weeks of her pregnancy. She was hospitalized with excessive bleeding before the miscarriage. She said it's important for Luna and Milles to stay connected with their late brother and always "embrace the ones that we've lost" based on her tradition.

"We have this new home that we're building, and this tree being planted inside," she told the magazine. "The whole reason why I wanted it was so Jack's ashes could be in that soil, and he could be with us all the time and grow through the beautiful leaves."

Over the years, Teigen said her definition of beauty has evolved after giving birth to her children. She has taken a proud stance of embracing her healed scars as a mother.



Teigen

Palin confirms COVID-19 diagnosis, urges steps like masks

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP)—Former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin says she tested positive for COVID-19 and is urging people to take steps to guard against the coronavirus, such as wearing masks in public.

"Through it all, I view wearing that cumbersome mask indoors in a crowd as not only allowing the newfound luxury of being incognito, but trust

it's better than doing nothing to slow the spread," Palin, the 2008 Republican vice presidential nominee, told People magazine.

"And history will show we Masked Singer visitors were masked before being masked was cool," she said in her state-



Palin

ment, referring to the TV show on which she once appeared.

It was not clear when Palin, 57, tested positive. She told the magazine that other members of her family tested positive as well.

She said her case shows "anyone can catch this."

"I strongly encourage everyone to use common sense to avoid spreading this and every other virus out there," Palin said, in urging vigilance but not fear.

She said she also advised "reprioritizing some personal time and resources to ensure as healthy a lifestyle as you can create so when viruses do hit, you have at least some armor to fight it."

Archbishop: Harry, Meghan didn't wed before Windsor service

LONDON (AP)—The archbishop of Canterbury has confirmed that he legally married Prince Harry and Meghan Markle at Windsor Castle in May 2018, despite the couple's claim that they had another, private, ceremony three days earlier.

During an interview with Oprah Winfrey earlier this month, Meghan said that "three days before our wedding we got married."

"We called the archbishop

and we just said, look, this thing, this spectacle is for the world, but we want our union between us," she said. "So the vows that we have framed in our room are just the two of us in our backyard with the archbishop of Canterbury."

Justin Welby said the couple were legally married at the castle on May 19, 2018 but would not disclose what occurred at private meetings before that.

"I signed the wedding

certificate, which is a legal document, and I would have committed a serious criminal offence if I signed it knowing it was false," said Welby, who is head of the church of England.

Welby told Italian newspaper La Repubblica that "I won't say what happened at any other meetings." He said he'd had "a number of private and pastoral meetings with the duke and duchess before the wedding."

In the interview with Winfrey, Meghan claimed that she had experienced racism and callous treatment from the royal household and the press during her time as a working member of the royal family.

In early 2020, Meghan and Harry announced they were quitting royal duties and moving to North America, citing what they said were the unbearable intrusions and racist attitudes of the British media.



SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Netflix lands 'Knives Out' sequels in high-priced deal

NEW YORK (AP)—Detective Benoit Blanc's next cases will be for Netflix. The streaming company said Wednesday it has reached a deal for two sequels to Rian Johnson's acclaimed 2019 whodunit, "Knives Out." Netflix declined to say how much it was paying for the films, which Johnson will direct with Daniel Craig returning as inspector Benoit Blanc. But Deadline, which first reported the deal, said the price would approach \$450 million—making it one of Net-

flix's largest—and most sweat-soaked—acquisitions. It also lands Netflix something it has dearly sought: the kind of major film franchises that traditional studios have long depended on. Production on the second "Knives Out," written by Johnson and produced by him and Ram Bergman, is to begin this summer. Netflix outbid several other streaming services to land "Knives Out," something that was even possible because the 2019 film was produced by Media Rights Cable and distributed by Lionsgate on a single-picture deal. Made for \$40 million, "Knives Out" grossed

\$311.4 million in worldwide ticket sales and landed Johnson an Academy Award nomination for best original screenplay.

Missing film designer found dead under garbage in NYC home

NEW YORK (AP) — An Emmy-winning production designer who was known to be a hoarder has been found dead under a pile of garbage in her New York City home. Evelyn Sakash, 66, was found Tuesday lying on her kitchen floor buried under garbage, a police spokesperson said. Sakash was found by her sister, who

had hired a cleaning crew to clear out the woman's home in the College Point section of Queens and look for her, police said. The sister and the cleaners found Sakash around 4:15 p.m. Tuesday, they said. Sakash was a production designer who had worked on films including "Mermaids," released in 1990, and 2014's "Still Alice," according to her IMDB page. She won a Daytime Emmy Award in 2003 for "Between the Lions." A police missing person report said Sakash was last seen alive on Sept. 30, 2020. The city medical examiner's office will determine her cause of death.

Moving back home comes with questions of privacy

DEAR ABBY: At the age of 30, I recently had to move back with my parents. I am not the tidiest person in the world, but I thrive on the saying, "Dust, not dirt."

I recently went on vacation. I knew my room was a little messier than I'd like, but I also knew I'd return from vacation ready to tackle the pile of laundry and sweep and mop the floor. Lo and behold, when I walked into my room, it was clean and organized! Abby, I felt my privacy had been invaded.

I was embarrassed and ashamed, but also hurt because my parents had trespassed beyond my closed door. I feel betrayed and like my personal privacy was undermined. What should I do?

INVADED SPACE

DEAR INVADED: I'm glad you asked. I think you should get over it, and fast. I assume you are staying rent-free in your parents' home.

You are no longer a teenager, and nobody trespassed. While you are under their roof, make an extra effort to keep the room you occupy free from dust and a pile of dirty laundry. If you act like a gracious guest instead of a spoiled child, there will be no reason to feel embarrassed or ashamed.

DEAR ABBY: I'm married and the mother of two kids, ages

5 and 7. My husband is a very involved father and partner in our marriage. My complaint is that he's too trusting of other people and doesn't keep an eye on the kids in public places.

An example: He'll take them to the grocery store and let them hang out in the toy department while he's getting groceries. They will be 100 yards away from each other. I have told him several times that I'm not comfortable with this, yet he continues to do it. I'm not sure what to do about it anymore. Have you any suggestions?

NERVOUS IN NEBRASKA

DEAR NERVOUS: Yes. Because your husband can't be trusted to watch the children when they accompany him shopping, talk to the kids and impress upon them the importance of staying close to their father. However, if this doesn't work, then YOU will have to take over the errands until the children are older.

DEAR ABBY: I'm 60 and was a stay-at-home mom for 20 years. I have an associate degree in the field that I just got a job in. My problem is, at this age, I'm a little slower at learning new things. My supervisor was willing to help me for the first week, but now she seems to have lost patience with me.

I have been here barely two weeks, and she made a comment that made me feel terrible. She was trying to teach me a filing

DEAR ABBY

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

system, and I was having a hard time understanding it. She said in front of the entire office that "around here we have to use our brains." Should I talk to her or just push through?

A LITTLE SLOWER

DEAR SLOWER: Let it slide this time. However, if her lack of tact continues, talk to her about how her comment made you feel. And in the meantime, learn that filing system.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis



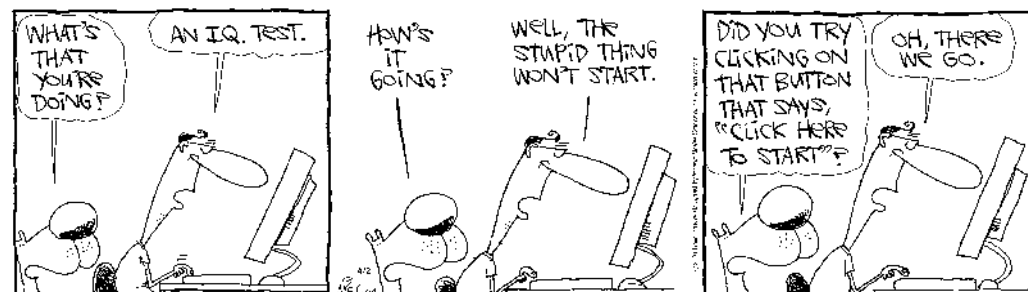
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Do sum work?

4 Unpaid TV ad

7 Layers of paints

12 Marseilles monarch

13 100%

14 Sound

15 Ger. neighbor

16 Shower units?

18 Telly network

19 Santa's helpers

20 Pack cargo

22 "— the ramparts ..."

23 Not so hot?

27 Co. that created Watson

29 Motorist

31 "Twilight" heroine — Swan

34 Streetcars

35 Large gong

37 Teeny

38 Grecian vessels

DOWN

1 Riyadh residents

2 Uncertainty

3 '70s club

4 Whittle (down)

5 Zigzag in snow

6 Breathing

7 Scoundrels

8 Wilder's "— Town"

9 Commotion

10 Bit of advice

11 "Mayday!"

17 Dweeb

21 Goes limp

23 Overcaffeinated

24 Actress Gardner

25 "The One I Love" band

26 Doubtful or

28 Sheepish remark

30 Numbered rd.

31 A/C measure

32 Listener

33 Run after K

36 Naturalist John

37 Sword or dagger

40 Elitists

42 Sandy's owner

43 Engine sound

44 Devour

45 Bar fight souvenir

46 Analogy words

48 URL suffix

49 Lawyers' gp.

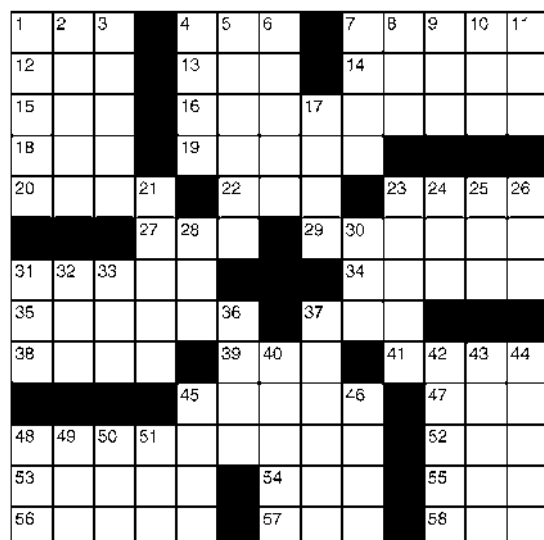
50 Utter

51 Med. plan option

Solution time: 25 mins.

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E	W	E	G	U	A	M	N	C	U	S
D	E	K	O	U	N	C	E	G	A	S
I	R	A	E	N	M	A	S	S	E	
R	E	Z	O	N	E	D	O	U		
O	L	E	A	A	H	B	E	B	O	P
A	K	T		T	O	G	D	E	L	A
N	A	S	A	L		N	U	B		H
M	A	P		S	O	L	O	N	G	
S	C	P		C	A	D		N	I	L
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N	E	C	H		C	D	I	C		M
T	E	S		S		D	O	L	T	N

Yesterday's answer 4-2



STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Michael Fassbender, 44; Roselyn Sanchez, 48; Emmylou Harris, 74; Linda Hunt, 76.

Happy Birthday: Be open to suggestions, and follow the path that makes the most sense. It's up to you to pull strings if you want to be successful. Concentrate on what makes you happy, and delve into personal growth, spirituality or educational pursuits that lead to a fulfilling life. Take the initiative to surround yourself with people who share your goals. Your numbers are 7, 16, 25, 27, 30, 39, 42.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Show compassion, but don't let anyone push you in a negative direction. Believe in your ability to get things done and to choose the best path for you. Self-improvement will boost your ego and confidence. Romance is favored. ★★★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Offer thoughts based on facts, not your emotions. Accept change readily, and look for the positive in whatever situation you face. When one door closes, another one opens. Put your energy behind the changes that come your way and embrace them. ★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Emotions will affect the way you respond. Think twice before you say something inappropriate. A kind and considerate gesture will get you further ahead with less regret. Personal improvement, better relationships and love are in your best interest. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Administrative dealings will be frustrating. Don't leave anything to the last minute. Invest

your time and money in self-improvement. You'll avoid falling behind if you keep up with what's trending. Steer clear of places that pose a health threat. ★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You need an outlet that will allow you to blow off steam. Don't let the changes others make bring you down. Focus on what you can do, and follow a path that feels like a good fit. Romance is on the rise. ★★★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Refuse to get into an argument with someone you live or work alongside. Keeping the peace will give you the freedom you need to do your own thing. Something you learn will develop into a life-changing experience. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Take on a project that will result in a better, wiser and happier you. Pour your energy into being your best, and you will discover the power of confidence and knowing what you want. Love is favored and will improve your life. ★★★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Emotional spending won't make you feel better. Look for a creative outlet that requires you to use your imagination and insight to figure out the best path to take. Balance and equality will encourage success. Invest in yourself and your future. ★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Be careful what you say. Having a spat with someone you love will take the wind out of any romantic plans you might have. Focus on being playful, loving and mindful of others, and you will

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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gain respect. Choose love over discord. ★★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Follow the money. Go over your spending habits, look at your overhead and find a way to cut corners. Don't give in to someone coaxing you to be lavish. A lifestyle change should ease stress, not increase it. ★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Do the work yourself, and you'll have no regrets. Someone will offer invalid information that will lead to emotional stress. Take the initiative and focus on fitness, health and being at the top of your game. Choose romance over conflict. ★★★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): An argument will leave you emotionally distraught. Put your energy into making a difference, not a disturbance, and you will gain powerful insight into the best way to outmaneuver anyone who tries to take you down mentally, emotionally or physically. ★★

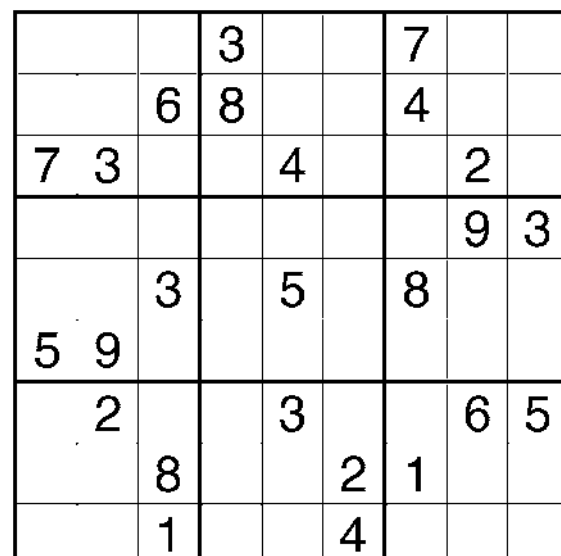
Birthday Baby: You are persuasive, engaging and commanding. You are curious and helpful.

★: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ★★: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ★★★: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ★★★★★: Aim high; start new projects. ★★★★★: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



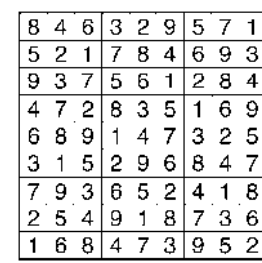
Difficulty Level ★★★★★

4/02

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer



Difficulty Level ★★

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backwards. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

'SCHITT'S CREEK' (TV SERIES)

Solution: 8 letters



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Alexis, Annie, Bob, Brewer, Budd, Café, Canadian, Catherine, CBC, Chris, Clerk, Currie, Daniel, David, Duke, Dustin, Elliott, Emily, Eugene, Family, Gwen, Hampshire, Job, Jocelyn, Johnny, Karen, Kurtz, Lee, Levy, Life, Milligan, Moira, Murphy, Music, Mutt, Noah, O'Hara, Patrick, Read, Reid, Rich, Robertson, Robin, Roland, Ronnie, Rose, Rozon, Sarah, Ted, Tim, Town, Twyla

Yesterday's Answer: Children
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Trail Blazers beat Pistons 124-101 for 4th straight win



DETROIT (AP)—Damian Lillard had 33 points and 10 assists and the Portland Trail Blazers beat the Detroit Pistons 124-101 on Wednesday night.

CJ McCollum added 24 points and Carmelo Anthony and Robert Covington each scored 16 as Portland finished an undefeated four-game road trip.

"It is always tough to win games on the road in this league, and that's especially true in these circumstances," Portland coach Terry Stotts said. "We had a 3-0 trip earlier in this season, and we thought these were four winnable games."

"But this was the last game of a road trip against a team with a poor record, so we could have overlooked it. That didn't happen."

Jerami Grant scored 30 points for Detroit, which lost for the fifth time in six games. Mason Plumlee added 18 points, but Detroit's other three starters—Saddiq Bey, Josh Jackson and Saben Lee—combined for two points on 1-for-17 shooting.

"Jerami got his 30, but that was a tough 30 points," Pistons coach Dwane Casey said. "We've got a lot of guys out right now, but we need someone to step up and help him out."

Grant had 17 first-half points to help Detroit to a 52-51 lead, but Lillard's 3-point shot on Portland's first possession of the second half started a 17-2 run. The Trail Blazers hit their first five 3-point attempts of the quarter and Lillard finished with 16 points in the period as Portland took an 87-79 lead.

Spurs 120, Kings 106

In San Antonio, DeMar DeRozan scored 26 points and the San Antonio Spurs snapped Sacramento's five-game winning streak, beating the Kings 120-106 on Wednesday night.

San Antonio entered having lost five of six, including a lethargic loss to Sacramento on Monday.

"I think we've created something about us, where we have been able to dig ourselves out of a hole more so than we would like," Spurs veteran guard Patty Mills said.

San Antonio rebounded from that 132-115 loss to Sacramento with a quicker pace and greater energy defensively in the rematch.

San Antonio rebounded from that 132-115 loss to Sacramento with a quicker pace and greater energy defensively in the rematch.

Timberwolves 102, Knicks 101

In Minneapolis, Anthony Edwards scored 12 of his 24 points over the final eight minutes, leading a fierce rally by the Minnesota Timberwolves for a 102-101 victory over former coach Tom Thibodeau and the New York Knicks on Wednesday night.

Edwards went 9 for 16 from the floor, with six makes in the paint.

"When he's going downhill and he's turning corners and getting to the heart of the defense, it lifts our entire team," coach Chris Finch said. "We don't have a lot of guys that can get there, to be fair. We try to do it in other ways, but he's one that has it and he's got a special gift."

Jazz 111, Grizzlies 107

In Memphis, Tenn., Mike Conley scored 13 of his 26 points in the fourth quarter, Jordan Clarkson added 24 points and the Utah Jazz beat the Memphis Grizzlies 111-107 on Wednesday night for their seventh straight victory.

Bojan Bogdanovic added



AP
Portland Trail Blazers forward Carmelo Anthony is fouled by Detroit Pistons center Isaiah Stewart (28) as Detroit Pistons guard Frank Jackson (5) knocks the ball away during the first half of an NBA basketball game, Wednesday, March 31, 2021, in Detroit.

Roby added 17 points and 10 rebounds for Oklahoma City, which snapped a three-game losing streak.

Nets 120, Rockets 108

In New York, admittedly down in the doldrums, the Brooklyn Nets were behind by 18 points in less than five minutes.

By the end of the night, they were on top of the Eastern Conference.

Kyrie Irving had 31 points and a season-high 12 assists, and the Nets overcame the loss of James Harden to beat the Houston Rockets 120-108 on Wednesday night and move into first place in the East.

Harden sat out the fourth quarter against his former team with right hamstring tightness, finishing with 17 points, eight rebounds and six assists.

Bucks 112, Lakers 97

In Los Angeles, Andre Drummond left his Lakers debut with a bruised right toe, and Jrue Holiday scored 28 points in the Milwaukee Bucks' 112-97 victory over Los Angeles on Wednesday night.

Giannis Antetokounmpo had 25 points and 10 rebounds, and Khristian Middleton added 17 points and eight assists as the Bucks snapped their three-game losing streak with a workmanlike victory over the depleted defending NBA champions, who are still without LeBron James and Anthony Davis.

Mavericks 113, Celtics 108

In Boston, Luka Doncic had 36 points and eight rebounds and the Dallas Mavericks held on to beat the Boston Celtics 113-108 on Wednesday night.

Jalen Brunson added 21 points, including two late free throws, and Kristaps Porzingis finished with 19 points to help the Mavericks win their second straight.

Dallas led by as many as 23 points in the third quarter before the Celtics rallied to within single digits in the fourth. The Mavericks survived despite committing six of their 16 turnovers in the final 12 minutes.

Jayson Tatum had 25 points and nine rebounds to lead Boston. Jaylen Brown added 24 points and Kemba Walker had 22.

Heat 92, Pacers 87

In Indianapolis, Duncan Robinson and Jimmy Butler provided the scoring punch for Miami on Wednesday night.

It was their defense that

changed the game.

Together, the undrafted guard and the All-Star forward combined for the first six points in a decisive fourth quarter run and then helped Miami hold Indiana to five points over the final seven minutes for a 92-87 victory.

Robinson finished with 20 points, eight rebounds and four assists, making six 3-pointers. Butler had 18 points as Miami won its second straight and avoided a three-game sweep in the season series with the Pacers.

Thunder 113, Raptors 103

In Oklahoma City, Svi Mykhailiuk scored 10 of his season-high 22 points during a key fourth-quarter stretch, and the Oklahoma City Thunder rallied to beat the Toronto Raptors 113-103 on Wednesday night.

Mykhailiuk made 9 of 14 shots overall and had a career-high nine rebounds.

Moses Brown had 20 points and 11 rebounds, and Isaiah

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Injuries, opt-outs and underdogs: UCLA's ride to Final Four

INDIANAPOLIS (AP)—As he basked in the glow of a win over Michigan, UCLA coach Mick Cronin was asked whether he thought he had the kind of team in his second season in Westwood to make a Final Four run.

Cronin thought for a moment about five-star prospect Daishen Nix, who reneged on his commitment to the Bruins for the G League. Then he thought about the season-ending knee injury to Chris Smith, his top returning player, and backup forward Jalen Hill's departure midway through the season for personal reasons.

With those three? Maybe. Without them?

"Hell no," Cronin said.

Yet here they are. One of college basketball's traditional powers, relegated to underdog status throughout the tournament, marching through heavyweights (Michigan State), upstarts (Abilene Christian and BYU), the flavor of the day (Alabama) and the team everyone had pegged as a championship contender since January (Michigan).

Two of the wins in overtime. Two more white-knucklers. Only one in which the Bruins were given a chance.

Next up is the overall No. 1 seed Gonzaga on Saturday night in the program's 19th trip to the national semifinals.

"If I had told you guys last May when we were all in lockdown," Cronin said, "you guys would have said, 'You're not going to make the NCAA Tournament.' Nobody would have said, 'You're going to the Final Four.' Let's be honest. Now, quietly, when we had those three guys — quietly, I told my dad, 'I've got a chance to have my best team ever.'"



AP
UCLA guard Tyger Campbell, right, celebrates with teammate guard Jaime Jaquez Jr. (4) after an Elite 8 game against Michigan in the NCAA men's college basketball tournament at Lucas Oil Stadium, Wednesday, March 31, 2021, in Indianapolis.

as losing guys and injuries."

That's a big reason why they've been longshots ever since stepping on the floor against Michigan State at Mackey Arena in West Lafayette, and everywhere else in Indiana this month: the basketball cathedral of Hinkle Fieldhouse, the swanky digs of the Pacers' Bankers Life Fieldhouse and the cavernous half-stadium setup inside Lucas Oil Stadium.

They'll be underdogs again when they return there to face the Bulldogs on Saturday night.

Since the NCAA began seeding teams in 1979, only five No. 1s have made it to the tournament's final weekend. None have made it to the final night. Eighth-seeded Villanova in 1985 is the lowest seed ever to walk away with the title.

The Bruins have made plenty of history already in Indianapolis.

Who's to say they can't make a little bit more?

"I don't want to say we're invincible. Everyone is beatable. Everyone has good nights and bad nights," Jaquez said. "We're definitely a confident team. We definitely believe in ourselves, even when no one else was or did. So we just believe in each other every single day and knew, if we got this opportunity, we were going to take full advantage."

It still might be his best team ever. It's certainly his most underappreciated and overachieving.

Johnny Juzang has gone from key role player to the breakout star of March Madness, his latest turn a virtuoso 28-point performance in a harrowing 51-49 victory over the top-seeded Wolverines in the regional finals Tuesday night. He became the first player since Oscar Robertson in 1960 to score more than half his team's points in an Elite Eight win.

Jaime Jaquez Jr. was there to bail out the Bruins in a First Four game against Michigan State, when they trailed by 11 at the half. Now, they're the second team to advance from that play-in round to the Final

Four after VCU a decade ago.

Then there's Tyger Campbell, the mop-haired guard who can somehow get a shot over anyone. Cody Riley, the undersized post whose penchant for fouls is balanced only by his affinity for big buckets. Jules Bernard, whose streaky good 3-point shooting helped the Bruins handle the second-seeded Crimson Tide.

It's a piecemeal collection of talent. And so far, it can't be beat.

"We've had our ups and downs during the season," Juzang said, "but it's such a beautiful thing, you know? The way we have come together for this postseason? It's just a feeling of

everybody's just so unified. It's like one, just, unit, and we're just all sharing in each other and rooting for each other. I mean, I think that's why we're at this point."

There's been plenty of moments that could have shattered them.

The first came almost a year ago, when Nix — the nation's top prep point guard and a cornerstone of Cronin's recruiting class — decided to play in the NBA's developmental league. Cronin was still blasting the G League for openly recruiting Nix even as the Bruins prepared to play Michigan in his first Elite Eight.

After weathering the early

months of college basketball in a pandemic, the second big blow to the Bruins came in January, when Smith tore his ACL in a game against Colorado. The loss of their lone senior came just weeks before the third big blow, when Hill's abrupt departure left UCLA perilously short-handed in the post.

Injuries haven't stopped, either. Juzang twisted his ankle in the second half against Michigan, limping to the bench to get it re-taped before finishing the game. Bernard spent the entire 40 minutes limping up and down the court.

"You know," Cronin said, "there's not much that hasn't happened to us this year as far



INDIANAPOLIS (AP)—March Madness was worth the year-long wait.

The disappointment of losing last year's NCAA Tournament to the pandemic added excitement for this year's bracket and it didn't disappoint with a slew of upsets.

Now that the dust has settled a bit, we're down to four.

One is chasing history. Another wasn't supposed to get this far. Two, both from Texas, have rekindled memories of the old Southwest Conference.

This should be fun.

THE TEAMS

Gonzaga. The Zags haven't lost since February 2020 and have history within their grasp. Win two games and they'll not only hoist the championship trophy for the first time, they'll become the first team to complete an undefeated season since Indiana in 1976. Oh, they're also good on offense. Twenty-seven straight double-

Final Four promises to be good after bracket of upsets

digit wins good.

Baylor. The Bears were discounted as title contenders when a late-season COVID-19 pause seemed to slow their roll. No one's saying that now after they swarmed their way through the bracket. If you like in-your-jersey defense with a dash of up-tempo offense, this is your team.

Houston. Like Baylor, the Cougars were in the now-defunct Southwest Conference. They're playing a bit like they did back then, conjuring up memories of the Phi Slama Jama days. They like to play defense, too, so there's going to be a few bruises when they meet the Bears in the Final Four.

UCLA. What a job Mick Cronin has done with the Bruins. He brought some of that toughness his Cincinnati teams had with him to Westwood and has UCLA back in a once-familiar place. The Bruins like

to squeeze the pace and their opponents, so Gonzaga's next step on the road to perfection won't be an easy one.

STAR PLAYERS

Corey Kispert, Gonzaga. The All-American sharpshooter has won more games (126) than any player in decades and is the Zags' go-to offensive guy. He's the second player in the last 10 years to shoot 50% from the floor, 40% from 3 and 90% from the free throw line.

Jared Butler, Baylor. The first player in school history to be named an Associated Press All-American is the leader on a team full of standouts. He can score, dish, loves to hit clutch baskets.

Johnny Juzang, UCLA. The athletic guard's decision to leave Kentucky gave the Bruins a huge boost. He can score in bunches, as he showed in the Elite Eight against Michigan,

and is playing his best basketball at just the right time.

Quentin Grimes, Houston. Another transfer who has had a massive impact on his new team. The former Kansas guard is the Cougars' leading scorer and a big reason they're back in the Final Four for the first time since the Phi Slama Jama days.

KEY PLAYERS

Davion Mitchell, Baylor. He's got the size of a linebacker, but the quickness of a cat. Put Mitchell on the opposing team's scorer and you can almost guarantee they're going to have a bad night.

Jalen Suggs, Gonzaga. The highest-rated prospect in program history does not play like a freshman. He lives for the big moments and has thrived under the postseason spotlight. Keep an eye on his passing. The former top-level quarterback prospect drops 3-4 dimes a game

that will make your jaw drop.

Tyger Campbell, UCLA. The sophomore point guard may have the best hair in the bracket and the game to match it. He's a steady force for the Bruins and fearless driving into the paint, even at 5-foot-11, 180 pounds.

DeJon Jarreau, Houston. The senior is the Cougars' floor leader, assists leader and can fill it up when he's hot. He scored 20 points against Oregon State in the Elite Eight, so he's clearly not afraid of the spotlight.

THE COACHES

Mark Few, Gonzaga. Few has turned a small Jesuit school in eastern Washington into a national powerhouse. Gonzaga has reached the NCAA Tournament every year there's been one in his 21 seasons, three Elite Eights and is in the Final Four for the second time since 2017.

Scott Drew, Baylor. He resuscitated a program reeling from one of the darkest scandals in college sports history during 18 seasons in Waco. The Bears reached the Elite Eight three times under Drew and broke through this year, earning the school's first Final Four bid in 71 years.

Kelvin Sampson, Houston. He's returned to Indiana, where his career nearly came to an end. Sampson was forced out at Indiana in 2008 due to NCAA sanctions and has reinvented himself during seven seasons at Houston, taking the Cougars to the Final Four for the first time since 1984.

Mick Cronin, UCLA. He took a bit of a risk taking over a UCLA program that had fallen off when he arrived in Westwood two years ago, but has made it work quite well. The Bruins have embraced Cronin's play-hard style and are back in the Final Four for the first time since 2008

Source: Lindor, Mets agree to \$341M, 10-year deal

NEW YORK (AP)—Francisco Lindor and the New York Mets have agreed to a \$341 million, 10-year deal, keeping the All-Star shortstop in Queens for the long haul after acquiring him from Cleveland in the offseason, according to a person familiar with the agreement.

The person spoke to The Associated Press on Wednesday night on condition of anonymity because the deal hadn't been announced.

Lindor was eligible for free agency after this season and said this spring he wouldn't negotiate with the Mets on a long-term contract after opening day. Less than 24 hours before New York starts its season Thursday night in Washington, an agreement was reached.

The 27-year-old Lindor has two Gold Gloves and made four All-Star teams in six seasons with the Indians, hitting .285 with an average of 29 homers, 86 RBIs and 21 stolen



AP
New York Mets' Francisco Lindor (12) is congratulated by Michael Conforto after scoring on a solo home run during the fifth inning of a spring training baseball game Miami Marlins, Tuesday, March 23, 2021, in Port St. Lucie, Fla.

million, 12-year deal with the Los Angeles Angels and Mookie Betts' \$365 million, 12-year contract with the Los Angeles Dodgers are worth more. Betts' deal includes \$115 million in deferred payments through 2044.

Lindor's deal is also by far the largest payout ever from the Mets, surpassing contracts for third baseman David Wright (\$138 million), pitchers Jacob deGrom (\$137.5 million) and Johan Santana (\$137.5 million).

Cohen tweeted Tuesday that Lindor was a "heckuva player and a great guy" and said he hoped to strike a deal. He confirmed the pair had dinner together over the weekend.

MP
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minute with Saixian Bagsic following up with another goal in the 47th.

However, Matansa fought back behind Rakib Hassan and Josh David Joson who made one goal each in the 54th minute and 60th minute, respectively.

In a last-ditch effort to secure the win, Saipan United's Ichiro Borja landed a goal in the 86th minute, breaking the 2-2 tie in their favor.

Shirley's 2, Bangladesh FC 1
Titu Ahmed made the lone

goal for Bangladesh FC in the 25th minute to gain the lead over Shirely's.

However, Shirley's Lalaine Pagarao carried her team to victory with her two goals in the 27th minute and 76th minute.

Women's National Team 4, Island Star 1
Women's NT earned their first win of season after conquering Island Star to advance to the fifth spot in the overall standings.

Allyssya Angeles led the way with her two goals with help from Katrina Costales and Jannah Cassarino who added one goal each.

bases per 162 games.

He was the prized pickup in new owner Steve Cohen's first offseason, acquired from Cleveland along with right-hander Carlos Carrasco for infielders Amed Rosario, Andrés Giménez and two minor

leaguers. New York added Lindor knowing he could walk after the 2021 season, but the team said it would try to negotiate a long-term pact.

MLB Network was first to report on the agreement.

Lindor will retain his \$22.3

million salary for 2021 before the contract kicks in for 2022.

The deal will be the largest ever for a shortstop, passing Fernando Tatis Jr.'s \$340 million, 14-year contract with San Diego signed in February. Only Mike Trout's \$426.5

NFL planning to remove restrictions for vaccinated personnel

The NFL has plans to eliminate some restrictions from its current COVID-19 protocols for vaccinated players, coaches and personnel.

In a memo sent to the 32 teams Wednesday and obtained by The Associated Press, the league detailed potential amendments to the protocols used throughout the 2020 season and current off-season. Among the elements that could be eliminated are

the need to participate in daily testing; quarantine periods due to close contact with an infected individual; and/or refraining from social gatherings among other vaccinated individuals.

"It is also anticipated that clubs that achieve a certain rate of vaccination among its tiered staff and players may be permitted to relax restrictions that apply to meetings, meal time and use of locker rooms," the memo said.

On Tuesday, after the first of two days of virtual meet-

ings among the team owners, Commissioner Roger Goodell noted the value of pursuing coronavirus vaccines.

"We will be encouraging all personnel to get vaccinated and working with the players association on all these issues," Goodell said. "We are also using our platforms publicly to talk about the importance of getting vaccinations."

Goodell also mentioned the hope that the 2021 season will be fully attended by fans. That would be subject

to local COVID-19 rules and protocols.

"We're discussing plans to welcome back all fans across the country at all stadiums," he said. "All of us want to see every one of our fans back. Football is not the same without fans, and we expect to have full stadiums in the upcoming season."

The league has given the teams permission to begin off-season programs on April 19. Most of those are voluntary, with the exception of mandatory minicamp in June.

Rollers Basketball league to reconvene next week

The Rollers Basketball Association is set to pick back up from where they left off in its Spring Madness League that was postponed since March 15 as a result of the identification of community transmission of COVID-19.

In a short statement from tournament director Ethan Kwon, RBA games are still on hold but they are looking to resume the weekend of April 10.

"Originally, we had planned to reschedule the tournament



KIMBERLY BAUTISTA
The Rollers Basketball Association's NMI RBA Spring Madness League is set to reconvene next week at the Kolberville Gymnasium.

for [April 2] but had decided to postpone one more weekend for Holy Week," he said.

According to *Saipan Tribune* archives, the decision to postpone the league, which was heading into its championship matches with the U11

scheduled to complete its second championship match on March 27, came immediately after a number of community members tested positive.

In other news, in observance of Easter Sunday and Holy Week, there are no leagues and games this week for both the Men's M-League and the Dove Women's League. (*Kimberly A. Bautista*)

decided to expand MMA to children upon requests from parents.

"There was an interest from a few of the parents whose children are training in our Brazilian Jiu J Kids' program every Tuesday and Thursday. At the same time, we offer Adult Kick Boxing classes and a lot of the parents were also asking about a Kid's Kick Boxing class, so we decided to

cater to the demand and give it a try where kids can learn both ground fighting and stand up fighting and what better way than teaching MMA, which originally was Trench Tech's base training since we first started," he said.

Trench Tech wants to assure parents who are a bit hesitant to enroll their children that Trench Tech has capable instructors with more than

enough experience to ensure that their children are safe while training.

"As with all sports, the potential for danger always exists. Injuries can and will occur if you do it long enough. It's only a matter of time. But of course, at Trench Tech, our experienced instructors will guide the kids and coach them diligently in both the physical and mental aspect of the art," he said.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Brooklyn	33	15	.688	—
Philadelphia	32	15	.681	½
New York	24	24	.500	9
Boston	23	25	.479	10
Toronto	18	30	.375	15

Southeast Division

Charlotte	24	22	.522	—
Miami	24	24	.500	1
Atlanta	23	24	.489	1½
Washington	17	29	.370	7
Orlando	16	31	.340	8½

Central Division

Milwaukee	30	17	.638	—
Indiana	21	25	.457	8½
Chicago	19	27	.413	10½
Cleveland	17	30	.362	13
Detroit	13	34	.277	17

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

Dallas	25	21	.543	—
San Antonio	24	21	.533	½
Memphis	22	23	.489	2½
New Orleans	21	25	.457	4
Houston	13	34	.277	12½

Northwest Division

Utah	36	11	.766	—
Denver	29	18	.617	7
Portland	29	18	.617	7
Oklahoma City	20	27	.426	16
Minnesota	12	36	.250	24½

Pacific Division

Phoenix	33	14	.702	—
L.A. Clippers	32	17	.653	2
L.A. Lakers	30	18	.625	3½
Golden State	23	24	.489	10
Sacramento	22	26	.458	11½

NBA LEADERS

Scoring

	G	FG	FT	PTS	AVG
Beal, WAS	41	449	296	1284	31.3
Lillard, POR	44	404	319	1310	29.8
Curry, GS	40	386	202	1162	29.1
Doncic, DAL	40	403	217	1141	28.5
Antetokounmpo, MIL	43	442	288	1222	28.4
LaVine, CHI	45	442	200	1238	27.5
Jokic, DEN	47	497	195	1260	26.8
Williamson, NO	44	444	264	1160	26.4
Harden, BKN	40	329	268	1043	26.1
Leonard, LAC	40	376	209	1038	26.0
Mitchell, ATL	44	387	206	1131	25.7
James, LAL	41	388	168	1042	25.4
Young, ATL	45	343	350	1144	25.4
Tatum, BOS	41	380	161	1036	25.3
Booker, PHO	42	388	189	1051	25.0
Fox, SAC	46	416	224	1141	24.8
Brown, BOS	43	398	147	1055	24.5
Vucevic, CHI	46	454	95	1122	24.4
Sexton, CLE	40	353	184	957	23.9
Ingram, NO	46	391	205	1097	23.8

FG Percentage

	FG	FGA	PCT
Gobert, UTA	256	394	.650
Holmes, SAC	262	405	.647
Harrell, LAL	292	458	.638
Allen, CLE	209	330	.633
Williamson, NO	444	712	.624
Ayton, PHO	291	477	.610

Rebounds

	G	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG
Capela, ATL	41	198	382	580	14.1
Gobert, UTA	46	159	456	615	13.4
Valanciunas, MEM	39	156	333	489	12.5
Kanter, POR	46	200	339	539	11.7
Vucevic, CHI	46	90	445	535	11.6
Antetokounmpo, MIL	43	77	413	490	11.4
Sabonis, IND	45	113	395	508	11.3
Jokic, DEN	47	137	384	521	11.1
Ayton, PHO	46	156	351	507	11.0
Randle, NY	46	66	430	496	10.8

Assists

	G	AST	AVG
Harden, BKN	40	448	11.2
Westbrook, WAS	39	414	10.6
Young, ATL	45	428	9.5
Doncic, DAL	40	360	9.0
Paul, PHO	45	384	8.5
Jokic, DEN	47	398	8.5
Green, GS	40	337	8.4
James, LAL	41	323	7.9
Lillard, POR	44	342	7.8
Morant, MEM	36	269	7.5

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TRENCH
From Page 24

Trench Tech plans on doing a package deal which will include Kid's BJJ Classes and Kid's MMA Classes for \$65 a month.

The program will run for as long as there are children and parents interested in having their children train in MMA.

Alvarez said Trench Tech



Trail Blazers
beat Pistons
124-101 for 4th
straight win

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Saipan Tribune Sports

Injuries, opt-outs
and underdogs:
UCLA's ride to
Final Four

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24 FRIDAY, APRIL 2, 2021

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

MP United hammers Kanoa

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

MP United pummeled Kanoa Football Club, 4-0, in their match last Sunday maintaining its spot within the Top 5 in Division A of the M-League Spring 2021 season held every weekend at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Trench Tech will start its mixed martial arts classes for children this Saturday with the goal of teaching children discipline and respect as well as proper fighting techniques.

Trench Tech launches MMA classes for children

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Trench Tech Gym will start its mixed martial arts classes for children tomorrow, April 4, with the goal of teaching children discipline and respect as well as proper fighting techniques.

According to Cuki Alvarez, Trench Tech founder and president, with the Kid's MMA Class, the first thing that is taught is discipline and respect along with the basics and fundamental movements and footwork and coordination drills that come with training any sport.

"We'll train them to understand that the skills they learn can be harmful to others if used irresponsibly. We will work closely with the

parents of all the children and promote, honor, respect and humility. MMA is a sport and not a ruthless martial arts and should be handled accordingly and with discipline and discretion," he said.

Alvarez said the class will mainly focus on teaching the children striking drills with the punching bags and will also offer partner wrestling and grappling drills and techniques that will enhance their skills, hand eye coordination, balance, and strength and conditioning.

The Kid's MMA Class will be open to children ages 6 to 12 every Saturday morning from 9:30am to 10:30am.

See TRENCH on Page 23



KIMBERLY B. ESMORES

MP United and Kanoa Football Club players fight for the ball during their match in Division A of the M-League Spring 2021 season held last Sunday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.



MP United seized its third win of the season over Kanoa, keeping its No. 4 spot in the overall standings, behind Joshua Abragan's two goals with contributions from Kwangjo Lim and Sun-joon Tenorio who made one goal each.

MP United didn't even give Kanoa a chance to even the score throughout their match with Abragan leading the way, landing his first goal in the 29th minute. Lim came up from behind scoring his goal

in the 37th minute followed by Tenorio in the 40th minute. Abragan closed off the game with his second goal in the 49th minute.

DIVISION A TanHoldings 10, Old B Bank 0

Meanwhile, TanHoldings rose to the top of Division A after coasting past Old B Bank, who remains at the bottom of the scoreboard.

TanHoldings' Mark Esalan carried the team with his 5 goals with contributions from

Michiteru Mita who added 4 goals. Ronnel Ocanada also added one goal to the team's final score.

Esalan and Mita tag-teamed in the first 37 minutes of the match with Esalan drawing first blood in the 18th minute followed by a goal from Mita in the 31st minute. Esalan followed up with a goal in the 35th minute followed by another from Mita in the 37th. Ocanada shot his only goal in the 47th minute.

Esalan continued to make it rain with three consecutive

goals in the 49th minute, 52nd minute, and the 54th minute. Mita concluded the match with two more goals in the 56th minute and one on the 76th minute.

U18 Team A 3, Paire 1

U18 A also improved to No. 2 in overall standings, pushing former No. 1 Paire down to No. 3 after besting the erstwhile division leader in their match last Sunday.

Dev Bachani carried the team with his two goals in the 11th minute and 18th minute, while Kaden Church made the last goal of the game in the 21st minute.

U18 Team B 6, The One FC 1

U18 B took an easy win over The One behind Dylan Myster's three goals. Ruban Guerrero, Oliver Fajardo, and Reginald Pascual contributed one goal apiece to bring the team to victory.

DIVISION B Saipan United 3, Matansa 2

Saipan United remains in the pole position in the Division B after prevailing in a close game against Matansa.

Kenneth Guo took the lead for Saipan United in the 37th

See MP on Page 23



KIMBERLY B. ESMORES

MP United maintains its spot in the Top 5 of Division A of the M-League Spring 2021 season held every weekend at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.